

Wabash Plain Dealer

WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 30, 2021

\$3

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's
weather

80

63



**Pulse
of Wabash**

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Manchester Civic Band plans live performances

Manchester Civic Band performances at Peabody Retirement Community have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 22 and Dec. 1. This year's Timbercrest Retirement Community performances have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 30, Sept. 29 and Dec. 8. They have tentatively scheduled performances for Saturday, July 31 at the North Manchester Summerfest parade; and Saturday, Oct. 2 for a concert at Harvest Fest. In addition, performances have also been tentatively scheduled for the North Manchester Fun Fest parade and at Doud's Orchard Open House in Denver, Indiana.

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Jerry D. Copeland sentenced to 30 years for voluntary manslaughter

Wabash man pleaded guilty Friday in the 2019 death of Richard A. Watkins

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Jerry D. Copeland, 42, of Wabash, was sentenced to 30 years in prison after pleading guilty to voluntary manslaughter, a level two felony.

Judge Robert R. McCallen accepted the guilty plea and issued the sentencing Friday.

At approximately 10:58 p.m. July 16, 2019, WPD officers responded to the 200 block of East Main Street for a report of a "loud bang," said WPD public information officer Capt. Matt

A. Benson.

Benson said Wabash Police Department officers located Richard A. Watkins, deceased on the lawn from an apparent gunshot wound.

"Wabash Police worked countless hours to provide evidence to the Wabash County Prosecutor William C. Hartley Jr." on Copeland, said Benson.

Wabash County Coroner Suzie Lewis ruled the cause of death a homicide by firearm.

"Since that evening, Wabash Police processed the scene, interviewed and obtained statements from many witnesses and other people of interest," stated Benson. "Many of the people of interest had to be located throughout Wabash County

to obtain information. The search for the firearm led Wabash Police to many addresses as well as searching the Wabash River. A firearm was recovered and is currently being processed by Indiana State Police. Wabash Police Detectives have spent many hours completing all the necessary paperwork to forward (to) Hartley."

Copeland was taken into custody in the early morning hours of July 16, 2019, and has been in Wabash County Jail on narcotic-related charges stemming from a search of his residence that

See **SENTENCED**, page A2

Richard Alex Watkins, left, holds his son, Quentin Watkins.

Provided photo by Katie Watkins



Summer Plaza Music Series concludes Thursday



Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

On Thursday, June 17, at the Honeywell Center's Carpenter Plaza, Chris Worth and his band started things off with their rendition of Bill Withers' "Use Me."

Honeywell Center's Carpenter Plaza will feature Mississinewa Valley Swing Band

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

On Thursday, June 17, at the Honeywell Center's Carpenter Plaza, Chris Worth and his band started things off with their rendition of Bill Withers' "Use Me."

With the bright sun shining down, spectators were lined up in tight bunches under the shade of the trees

lining the street next to them.

"We are thrilled to be able to safely return to the Carpenter Plaza. The weather has been kind and our guests have enjoyed the shade of the trees at the Honeywell Center," said Honeywell Arts & Entertainment marketing director Ann Harting on Tuesday.

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment development

communications manager Courtney Harvey said the Summer Plaza Music Series returned to the Honeywell Center Carpenter Plaza "for another great season of family entertainment" after moving to the 13-24 Drive In last year due to COVID-19 concerns.

This year, the series has been going strong for several weeks and will conclude this week from 5 to

7 p.m. Thursday, July 1 with "patriotic pops" from the Mississinewa Valley Swing Band.

"We're looking forward to finishing off the season with another great concert on Thursday, July 1," said Harting.

The Summer Plaza Music Series is free and open to the public.

See **MUSIC**, page A2

Wabash named state's newest Cultural District

Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) made the official announcement Friday

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

On Friday, June 25, Wabash achieved a statewide designation several years in the making.

"After a very long process," Wabash was named the newest Cultural District by the Indiana Arts Commission (IAC), said Wabash Marketplace executive director Andrea Zwiebel.

At the same time, Arts Campus Fort Wayne also received the designation to bring the statewide total to 12 communities.

On Monday, June 28, Wabash Marketplace public relations and marketing manager Morgan Ellis said the designation was a "prestigious milestone" in the IAC Creative Community Pathway Program.

"The city of Wabash and its community partners collaborate to make Wabash the best city to raise a family and work," said Mayor Scott

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DNR asks for removal of all bird feeders due to mystery illness

Sick and dying songbirds have been reported in over 40 counties statewide

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A mysterious illness affecting songbirds across the state has the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) asking all Hoosiers

to remove their bird feeders while the investigation continues.

In late May, DNR started receiving reports of sick and dying songbirds from Monroe County with neurological signs, eye swelling, and crusty discharge around the eyes, said DNR assistant director of communications Marty Benson.

"The DNR has been testing the birds but it is not coming up with any of the normal

culprits," said Wabash County Purdue Extension director and agriculture and natural resources educator Geoff Schortgen on Tuesday.

Species that are principally affected include blue jay, American robin, common grackle, starling, northern cardinal and brown-headed cowbird.

DNR staff has collected samples and submitted them to the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory.

Final laboratory diagnostic results are pending. The cause or transmission is currently unknown and still under investigation.

All birds have tested negative for avian influenza and West Nile virus.

As the investigation continues, the DNR recommends all Hoosiers remove their birdfeeders, including those for hummingbirds, statewide.

Reports of sick and dying

birds now include more than 40 counties, including Allen, Bartholomew, Benton, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Clark, Clinton, Decatur, Delaware, Floyd, Gibson, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Lake, LaPorte, Lawrence, Marion, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Ohio, Orange, Parke, Porter,

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Paul Markiewicz
Registered Principal



Erica Markiewicz
Registered Representative

16 N. Miami St., Peru
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DISTRICT

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Long. “This designation exemplifies the collaboration between organizations within Wabash to make our community a destination. I’m proud to lead a community that strives to be better every day.” Ellis said downtown Wabash was “honored” to be recognized as one of the newest Indiana Cultural Districts.

“The Wabash Cultural District spans from the river to rails between Paradise Spring Park and the Honeywell Center. Downtown Wabash is the hub of arts and culture with assets such as Eagles Theatre, Wabash County Museum, Honeywell Center, Wabash River, Make It Your Own Pottery Studio, public art, First Friday events, Wabash Woollen Works and so much more,” said Ellis.

In the application process beginning in 2020, Wabash was selected as a Spotlight Community within the Creative Community Pathway and was invited to apply for the Cultural District Consortium. Wabash’s application nominated the Wabash Cultural District with an 85-page dissertation. The application also focused on the vaudeville roots of the community that began in the early 1900s and can be seen today at the recently renovated Eagles Theatre.

“Receiving this statewide designation from the IAC is a tremendous honor. Wabash joins a distinguished list of Indiana communities that uplift arts and cultural assets,” said Honeywell Arts & Entertainment CEO Tod Minnich. “Wabash is a remarkable city and the Cultural District represents how extraordinary our community is.”

Ellis said the Wabash Cultural District will continue to market the modern-day “Vaudeville Vibe” of arts and culture activities. The next steps for the Wabash Cultural District will be determined by the local committee, led by Wabash Marketplace. Additional community partners include the city of Wabash, Honeywell Arts & Entertainment, Grow Wabash County, Visit Wabash County, Wabash County Museum and a panel of artists.

“Downtown Wabash is excited to join Arts Campus Fort Wayne as a Northeast Indiana Cultural District,” said Zwiebel. “How exciting is it that of these newly designated Cultural Districts are cities located in Northeast Indiana? The accomplishments of both communities further prove that both Wabash and Allen Counties are excellent places for people to live, work and experience arts and culture.”

Fort Wayne and Wabash join just 10 other communities



Provided photo

“After a very long process,” Wabash was named the newest Cultural District by the Indiana Arts Commission (IAC), said Wabash Marketplace executive director Andrea Zwiebel.

as recipients of the Cultural District Designation. Indiana Cultural Districts also include Bloomington Entertainment and Arts District (BEAD), Carmel Arts and Design District, Columbus Arts and Entertainment District, Fishers: Nickel Plate District, Jeffersonville: NoCo Arts and Cultural District, Lafayette: Tippecanoe Arts and Cultural District, Madison Arts and Cultural District, Nashville: Arts Village Brown County, Noblesville Cultural Arts District and Terre Haute: 4/40 Arts and Cultural District.

On Friday, IAC director of marketing and communications Bridget Eckert an Indiana Cultural District is a well-recognized, labeled, mixed-use area with unique, authentic art and cultural identity.

“The IAC provides project funding for designated Indiana Cultural Districts, facilitates statewide collaboration through the Indiana Cultural District Consortium, and provides other capacity-building opportunities for cultural district leadership,” said Eckert.

Indiana Arts Commission artist and community services manager Anna Tragesser said Wabash was a “collaborative community committed to working towards the vision of a vibrant, inclusive downtown.”

“With a rich history that connects to the present creative scene of the community, Wabash, and local arts organizations like the Honeywell Center, are building a new era of community connectedness,” Tragesser said. “Wabash has a compelling history and an even brighter future, and we are excited to have them joining the Consortium.”

To receive the designation, Fort Wayne and Wabash participated in the Creative Community Pathway program and most recently submitted an application that was reviewed by a public panel of experts specializing in economic and tourism development. Indiana Cultural Districts promote the exploration of and participation in the arts and humanities through cultural experiences that are unique to the individ-

ual communities.

“Fort Wayne is a community committed to collaboration. With a wealth of creative organizations, there is an incredible amount of opportunity for community engagement,” said Tragesser. “Regional leaders have done a wonderful job of working together as they establish opportunities for tourism and downtown development as a strategy for near-term growth.”

Wabash has been working toward receiving this designation for at least five years as the city first applied to a statewide committee in September 2016.

The IAC announced in early 2020 that the previous “Cultural District Application” was morphing into the “Creative Community Pathway.” The goal of the program is to recognize communities that utilize arts and culture as a strategy for growth. Communities can receive either “Creative Community Designation” or “Cultural District Designation.”






On Dec. 11, 2020, the IAC voted to approve Wabash, Fort Wayne, Goshen and Kokomo for Spotlight Community recognition as part of the Creative Community Pathway program. These four communities were then invited to apply for Cultural District Designation.

In May, the IAC announced that Fort Wayne, Goshen, Kokomo, and Wabash had their applications for Cultural District Designation reviewed. Reviewing the applications were peers from around the state specializing in cultural, leadership, community, economic and tourism development. Applications recommended for designation were reviewed by the IAC’s Programs, Grants and Services Committee, with final funding approval made by the full Commission at its Friday, June 25 Quarterly Business Meeting.

For more information, visit <https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/training/creative-community-pathway/>.





Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

5-Day Weather Summary

 Wednesday Scattered T-storms 85 / 69	 Thursday Showers Likely 80 / 63	 Friday Isolated T-storms 77 / 59	 Saturday Partly Cloudy 76 / 61	 Sunday Partly Cloudy 79 / 63
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 9:14 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 6:19 a.m.

 Last 7/1	 New 7/9	 First 7/17	 Full 7/23
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a 70% chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 85°, humidity of 65%. West southwest wind 3 to 6 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an 85% chance of showers, overnight low of 69°. Southwest wind 2 to 5 mph.



Provided photo by Brent Drinkut / Indiana DNR

A juvenile blue jay exhibits symptoms of eye discharge that is affecting songbirds in Indiana and other states.

SONGBIRDS

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Putnam, Starke, St. Joseph, Tippecanoe, Union, Vanderburgh, Washington and Whitley.

Schortgen said he called the Salamonie Interpretive Center on Tuesday and was told there have not yet been reports of dead birds in Wabash or Huntington areas.

The following steps are recommended statewide by DNR:

- Use the DNR sick or dead wildlife reporting tool at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife to alert DNR staff.
 - Stop feeding birds until the mortality event has concluded.
 - Clean feeders and baths with a 10 percent bleach solution.
 - Avoid handling birds. If you need to handle birds, wear disposable gloves.
 - When removing dead birds, wear disposable gloves and place birds and gloves in a sealable plastic bag to dispose of with household trash.
 - Keep pets away from sick or dead birds as a precaution.
- On Monday, veterinarians with the Indiana State

Board of Animal Health (BOAH) also encouraged hobby flock owners to take steps to protect their poultry, said public information director Denise Derrer.

Derrer said owners of chickens, ducks and other backyard poultry have been asking about the risk to their flocks.

“Currently, we do not know what is causing songbirds to become ill or to die,” said Indiana state veterinarian Bret D. Marsh, DVM. “We are coordinating with Indiana DNR to investigate reports of sick birds. However, laboratory testing has not yet determined if this is a disease or some other agent.”

Without specific information on the cause, poultry owners are encouraged to protect their chickens, ducks, turkeys and other domestic species from any potential exposure to wild birds.

“We always recommend good biosecurity for small flocks,” said Marsh. “When something unknown and unforeseen like this happens is when keeping flocks secure really pays off.”

Derrer said good biosecurity practices mean keeping poultry safe from

unseen pathogens that can be brought into the coop by other birds, either wild or domestic; other animals, like feral cats; or humans who may carry disease-causing germs on their hands, clothing or shoes.

Deter contact with wild birds by keeping poultry in a fenced space and contain them to the coop or barn at night. Do not feed chickens outdoors where wild birds may feed, too. Clean and sanitize feed pans and waterers.

Poultry owners should also follow DNR’s recommendation to remove bird feeders, including hummingbird feeders, until the situation is better understood.

Marsh said small flock owners should remain vigilant in watching their poultry for signs of illness or disease. Any unusual or unexplained death loss or illness should be reported to the US Department of Agriculture Healthy Birds Hotline by calling 866-536-7593.

For more information, visit on.IN.gov/songbird deaths.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



Photos by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

With the bright sun shining down, spectators were lined up in tight bunches under the shade of the trees lining the street next to them.

MUSIC

From page A1

Food from the Plaza Grille will be available during all performances, including burgers, hot dogs, nachos and cheese, and more.

In the case of inclement weather, performances will be canceled. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/plaza.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

TOP RIGHT: Honeywell Arts & Entertainment development communications manager Courtney Harvey said the Summer Plaza Music Series returned to the Honeywell Center Carpenter Plaza “for another great season of family entertainment” after moving to the 13-24 Drive in last year due to COVID-19 concerns. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The Summer Plaza Music Series is free and open to the public.



SENTENCED

From page A1

night, said Benson. In August 2019, Copeland was originally charged with Watkins’ murder in Wabash Circuit Court.

This investigation was led by WPD Detectives Jason Mooney and John Krhin. Assisting the detectives were WPD patrol division, WCP Drug Task Force, Wabash County Sheriff’s

Department, Indiana State Police Crime Scene Technicians, Indiana State Police Scuba Team and the Wabash County Coroner’s Office.

According to Friday’s sentencing order, aggravating factors included Copeland’s criminal history, including conduct violations such as battery on another inmate while housed at the Wabash County Jail while pending resolution of this case.

“Probation has not been

successful or effective in the past,” said McCallen. “Defendant claims remorse, but (the) court believes he is insincere.”

Alex Watkins’ sister, Katie Watkins, did not return a Plain Dealer request for comment before press time.

This story will be updated as more information is released.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



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Obituaries

Lisa Kay Spangler

March 23, 1964 – June 24, 2021

Lisa Kay Spangler, 57, of Noblesville, passed peacefully at home at 7:00pm on June 24, 2021, surrounded by her beloved wife and those who cared for her most closely throughout her 3+ year odyssey with breast cancer.

Lisa was born on March 23, 1964 in Wabash, Indiana to Don and Ruth Spangler. Growing up and into her teen-aged years, she learned and assisted with various aspects of the family's small electronics repair business, later crediting those early experiences with having instilled in her the strong work ethic so many knew her for. Summers spent in Pennsylvania, where her extended family maintained orchards outside of Gettysburg, also contributed not only to Lisa's hard-working attitude but an appreciation for and many memories of the family bonds and traditions that were always so important to her.

Following graduation from Wabash High School, Lisa went on to attend Marion College, where she majored in Business and Accounting, ultimately attaining an MBA from Indiana Wesleyan University. For 10+ years, Lisa was the Controller for the Greensburg Daily News, followed by 10 years as the



Director of Finance at PERQ in Indianapolis. Most recently, Lisa was looking forward to leaning into a new role as the Manager of Financial Reporting and Budgeting with IU Health, but was unable to realize her contribution, due to advancing illness.

For many years, Lisa was the key organizer of the Professional Women's Group (PWG), a networking and social organization serving the Indianapolis-area lesbian community. Lisa was dedicated to providing a forum for local women to make connections and further build the community. Lisa also served as Treasurer on the board of the Indiana Youth Group. An avid golfer, she was a member of the LPGA amateur golf association.

In 2006, Lisa attended a poker game, where she not only took home the pot but met the woman she would eventually marry. Together, they enjoyed common interests in outdoor pursuits, antiquing and estate sales, board games and puzzles, beautifying their shared home and garden, and doting on their adoring Boston Terrier, Franklin Delano. Throughout the years, their shared passion for travel took them to locations ranging from the rugged coastlines of Acadia National Park and Ireland's Giants Causeway to the shores of Lake Michigan and, yearly, back to their beloved South Carolina Low Country, where they were married in 2015 in a private ceremony on Hunting Island.

Whether learning the skills required to excel in a new professional position, teaching herself to play guitar, or fighting for her life, Lisa modeled a commitment to excellence and unflinching grit and determination to succeed in all things. Besides her big and ready laugh, her curiosity for exploration, and the sensitivity she felt deeply but only rarely showed, those who most love Lisa will remember her meticulous attention to her amazing hair, her passionate

aversion to June Bugs and popping balloons, her enduring appreciation for all things chocolate, and the fact that no matter the meal or occasion, her "dessert pipe" was always open. Most importantly, Lisa taught us about the capacity to love deeply and to live fully, no matter the circumstances.

She will be missed beyond measure but never forgotten.

Lisa is survived by her adoring wife, Mary K. Risher; her sister, Jane Barlow of Wabash; her brother, David (Beverly) Spangler of The Villages, Florida; nephew, Kyle (Christy) Barlow; nieces, Krissy Barlow-Solloway, Erica (Tim) Mulrooney, and Michelle (Angel) Torres; several great-nephews; and one great-niece.

Visitation will be held from 4:30-6:30 pm on July 2, 2021 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home at 1685 Westfield Road in Noblesville, Indiana, with service at 6:30 pm. A Celebration of Life with family and close friends will follow immediately after at Lisa's and Mary's home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: METAvivor at www.metavivor.org.

Condolences: www.randallroberts.com

Ruthann White

Aug. 6, 1926 – June 26, 2021



Ruthann White, 94, of Wabash, Indiana, died 4:45 am, Saturday, June 26, 2021, at Miller's Merry Manor East in Wabash. She was born on Aug. 6, 1926, in Peru, Indiana, to Paul and Grace (Parks) Brackenhamer.

Ruthann was a Bunker Hill High School graduate. She married M. Max White in Peru on Jan. 13, 1950; he died May 23, 2011. She was a member of the Wabash First Church of God, where she was a former Sunday School teacher. She enjoyed being a pastors wife at Battle Ground, Indiana and YCL ministries on Yellow Creek Lake. Ruthann was a former Gideon. She also enjoyed writing poetry, working crossword puzzles, knitting afghans, feeding the birds, and reading, especially Amish books. She and Max had a cottage on Yellow Creek Lake since 1980.

She is survived by two children, Sue A. White and Steven M. (Margie) White, both of Wabash, grandson, Benjamin (Sarah) White of Wabash, great-granddaughter, Abbi Campbell of LaFontaine, Indiana, and two sisters-in-law, Mae Brackenhamer of Palm Desert, California and Melba East-erday of Culver, Indiana.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, and three brothers, Paul Brackenhamer, Jr., James Brackenhamer and Donald Brackenhamer.

Funeral services will be 2 pm, Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastor Robb Rensberger officiating. A private burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash immediately after the service. Friends may call 1-2 pm Wednesday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is Gideons International or Wabash County Cancer Society.

The memorial guest book for Ruthann may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Terry Lee Keaffaber

Services for Terry Lee Keaffaber were 2 pm Monday, June 28, 2021 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. Rev. John Cook officiated and memories were shared by his granddaughter, Stacy Johnson. Pallbearers were Jay Rife, Dustin Johnson, Jacob Johnson, Lane A. Keaffaber, Donny Osborn, and Kyle Barlow. Burial was in Falls Cemetery.

Edgar C. Nash, 87, of Gilead, Indiana passed at 2:07 pm, Friday, June 25, 2021 at Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Center of Wabash, Indiana.

Ed was born on Sept. 18, 1933 in Eden, Texas to the late William and Lorene (Radcliff) Nash. He was married on Nov. 26 1981 in Sullivan, Indiana to Barbara L. Brown, who preceded her in death on Nov.

Edgar C. Nash

Sept. 18, 1933 – June 25, 2021

6, 2015.

A private memorial service will be held in his honor at a later date.

The arrangements have been entrusted to Hartzler Funeral Home 305 West Rochester Street Akron, Indiana.

Share a Memory or send an Online Condolence at: www.hartzlerfuneralservices.com

Dorotha Winger Fry Mason

Dec. 21, 1926 – June 24, 2021

Dorotha Winger Fry Mason, 94, North Manchester, died June 24, 2021. Born Dec. 21, 1926 in North Manchester, Dorotha was the daughter of J.O. and Lofa (Eikenberry) Winger.

Dorotha is survived by her husband, Joe Mason; son, Randy (Joyce) Fry; daughters, Kathy (Paul) Fry-Miller, and Rebecca (Jerry) Herder; step-sons, Steve (Ginny) Mason, and Paul

(Rosa) Mason; step-daughter, Evelyn (Bill) Kilgore; 24 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

A celebration of Dorotha's life will be July 11, 2021 at 2 p.m. at the Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley Street, North Manchester.

Final arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Everett 'Jim' Metzger

April 25, 1921 – June 24, 2021

Everett "Jim" Metzger, 100, Silver Lake, died June 24, 2021. He was born in Claypool, on April 25, 1921 to Homer and Iva May (Beigh) Metzger.

He is survived by his son, Philip Metzger Sr.; daughter, Mary Ann (James) Bortz; eight grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren.

Calling Tuesday, June 29, 2021 from 2-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 S.R. 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services begin Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at 11 a.m. with calling at 10:00. Pastor Jeremy Jones will officiate, and burial will be at Pleasant Hill Cemetery, 997 West State Road 114, North Manchester.

Wynter Dey Biehl

July 28, 1994 – June 27, 2021



Wynter Dey Biehl, 26, of Urbana, passed away at 8:10 a.m. on Sunday, June 27, 2021, at her residence. She was born on July 28, 1994, in Peru, Indiana, to Jeffery T. and Gladys Renee (Darnell) Biehl.

Wynter attended Northfield High School and graduated from Tricoci University of Beauty Culture in West Lafayette as an Esthetician. Wynter loved animals and doing arts and crafts. Most of all, Wynter loved her family.

Wynter is survived by her parents, Jeff and Renee Biehl, of Urbana; sister, Lexus Ann Biehl, of Urbana; fiancé, Travis Fettig; great uncle, Denny (Debbie) Lauer, of Logansport; great aunt, Susan Dunn, of Urbana; four uncles, Ted Biehl, Kris Biehl, both of Urbana, Roger Biehl, of Tennessee, and

Randy Darnell, of Wabash; one aunt Donna Sisco, of Roann; and honorary aunts and uncle, Romi and Kenny Plath, of Urbana and Nicole Lippens, of Phoenix, Arizona.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 2, 2021 at McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992 with Brian Chamberlain officiating. Burial will follow at Speicher Cemetery in Urbana.

Visitation will be on from 2 to 8 p.m., on Thursday, July 1, 2021, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are to the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Gebhart Holdings hires Troy Cole

STAFF REPORT

Gebhart Holdings has announced the appointment of Troy Cole as vice president of compliance, according to director of marketing Carrie Vineyard.

Cole is a life-long resident of Wabash County with a degree from Huntington University in business administration.

Cole has extensive experience in human resources and safety from the manufacturing and healthcare industries.

Currently, Cole is active with the Richvalley United Methodist Church and has previously been involved with the local community as past President to the Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce, Wabash County United Fund and Wabash Crime Stoppers.

"Our company is grow-



Provided photo

Troy Cole is a life-long resident of Wabash County with a degree from Huntington University in business administration.

ing rapidly so we are excited to have Troy on board to facilitate our compliance and human resource efforts and to be the liaison and resource to our employees and organization," said Ben Gebhart, owner of Gebhart Holdings.

VFW Post No. 286 to host a fish fry Friday

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 286 will host a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, July 2 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to Dan Ford.

The menu will include hand beer-battered fish, French

fries, a choice of pasta salad or coleslaw and hush puppies.

The cost will be \$9 per person. It will be open to the public. Carryout will be available.

For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Honeywell House Tastes on the Terrace concludes Wednesday

Guests invited to enjoy chef-quality outdoor dining with scenic nature views

STAFF REPORT

Experience the annual Honeywell House Tastes on the Terrace from 5 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, June 30, according to development communications manager Courtney Harvey.

Tastes on the Terrace features scenic outdoor dining with weekly menus featuring "delicious appetizers, entrees and desserts" prepared by Honeywell Foundation Executive Chef David Ericsson.

Tastes on the Terrace menu

options include salads, pizzas, sandwiches and more.

"Guests will enjoy their dining experience with a full view of the beautiful Honeywell House grounds. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be moved indoors. Tastes on the Terrace is open for all ages and reservations are not required," said Harvey.

The Honeywell House,

owned and operated by The Honeywell Foundation, serves as a cultural house museum to the surrounding community and beyond. Tours, social gatherings, weddings, meetings, musical performances, and other special events take place regularly at the property.

For more information, visit HoneywellHouse.org or HoneywellArts.org.

Independence Day weekend to kick off with Wabash 'Star-Spangled' First Friday

Variety of food trucks, live music, family-friendly activities available

STAFF REPORT

Wabash First Friday in July will bring families and friends to downtown Wabash from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, July 2 for live entertainment from The Bulldogs, a variety of food trucks, downtown shopping deals and more, according to Wabash Marketplace public relations and marketing manager Morgan Ellis.

The Visit Wabash County Trolley No. 85 will run throughout the evening making stops at Veteran's Plaza, Eagles Theatre, The Depot, Wabash County Museum, White Rock Recreation and the Dr. James Ford Historic Home.

First Friday festivities include:

- The Bulldogs: Concert from 7 to 9 p.m., presented by the city of Wabash.
- New Song Church: Bounce house and free snacks.



Provided photo

Wabash First Friday in July will bring families and friends to downtown Wabash from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, July 2 for live entertainment from The Bulldogs, a variety of food trucks, downtown shopping deals and more

- Little Miss and Mr. Contest: Registration details available.
- New Journey Church: Patriotic giveaway and free snacks.
- Wabash Marketplace: Storefront open to the public in the lower level

of the Wabash Landing; July-Fourth themed gift basket giveaway; Downtown Fun Since 1981 Merch available for purchase at 189. S. Miami St.

- Dr. James Ford Historic Home: Ice Cream Social.
- The Dance Experience: Fundraiser dinner including a hot dog, chips and drink at 120 W. Canal St.
- Lighthouse Mission: Open from 5 to 9 p.m. at 123 W. Canal St.
- Wabash County Museum: Open until 8 p.m. with admission at \$1 admission; Featuring renovated Modoc exhibit; Try signature "Three Ring Circus" drink at Modoc's; Video of Mike Beauchamp retelling the story of Modoc; Museum-on-the-Go take-home kits available; Airbrush Art Trailer.
- Purdue Extension Wabash County: Hosting an App Scavenger Hunt for items relating to Purdue Extension, 4-H Fair and projects

For more information, visit WabashMarketplace.org.

Beacon Credit Union kicks off its 10th Annual Project Spotlight

Voting begins
Thursday, July 1 and runs through
Saturday, July 31

STAFF REPORT

Beacon Credit Union’s Project Spotlight will kick off voting Thursday, July 1, running through Saturday, July 31, according to community relations specialist Kelly Stuber.

Everyone in the community is encouraged to vote for their favorite cause either online or in their local Beacon Member Center. Each individual may vote once per day per communi-

ty. After voting, the public may share to Facebook or Twitter to encourage others to vote for their favorite organization.

Last year, Project Spotlight received over 64,000 votes in the one-month period. Nominations were taken earlier this spring via branch and online submissions.

Project Spotlight is a program created by Beacon Credit Union with the hope that individuals and organizations would be inspired to reach out and serve those living and working around them. There will be winners from all 13 communities where Beacon Credit Union has a full-service Member Center.

The project that receives the most votes, in each community, will receive \$1,000 from Beacon Credit Union. The second-place winner will receive \$500, and there will be a third place in each community randomly picked to receive \$250. The total amount of money donated to charitable organizations in by Beacon Credit Union through Project Spotlight will be \$22,750.

“For the past 90 years Beacon Credit Union is proud to be part of all of the communities we serve and are enthusiastic about joining other organizations committed to Hoosiers and their communities,” said Stuber.

The spirit of freedom

“He has to get a life.” I’ve cleaned up the actual quote for family newspapers. Disdain would be a kind word to describe the feelings people had for a protester who recently livestreamed his time outside a Manhattan Planned Parenthood clinic. A few people crashed his video to let his social media followers know what a loser they think he is.

The man walking around talking about the murder of the unborn isn’t my style out there, but at least he wasn’t pretending there was nothing grave happening on that particular block. The voiceless unborn should be prayed for, alongside their mothers and everyone wrapped up in the culture of death. The ridicule that passersby resort to cannot mask this pain, and it’s a poor substitute for compassion.

I’m sorry that the young women I saw walking into Planned Parenthood didn’t value the lives in their wombs. I’m sorry that churches and the pro-life movement haven’t been able to get the word out to every single girl and boy, woman and man, about how loved they are and about the resources available to them; resources that would make abortion unnecessary.



Kathryn Lopez

Around Independence Day, I often think of National Review magazine’s late founder, William F. Buckley Jr., and a short talk he gave in 1979. In it he talked about how in the Soviet Union, at the time, there was “an infinitely long list of that which one is forbidden to do.” He added that in China, meanwhile: “One may do nothing – except those things which one is explicitly permitted to do.” And yet, the Constitution of the United States, he said, “and in particular the Bill of Rights, is essentially a list of prohibitions: but it is a list of things that the government cannot do to the people. What a huge distinction: a majestic distinction.”

He went on to say: “It grew out of a long, empirical journey, the eternal spark of which, of course, traces to Bethlehem, to that star that magnified man beyond any power of the emperors and gold seekers and legions of soldiers and slaves: a star that implanted in each one of us that essence that separates us from the beasts, and tells us that we were made in the image of God and were meant to be free.”

Our country was founded on a proposition: government of the people, by the people, and for the people, as Lincoln reminded us. Today, however, there’s this real danger that our culture is enslaving us and our ability to live in a pluralistic fashion. We don’t see the beauty of the human person as created. We don’t have the

same sense of stewardship as people who fought for the right of religious freedom did, perhaps.

How can we help vulnerable children while still having some fundamental disagreements about when life begins? Can we see the good in each other, even while being bewildered each other’s beliefs? I can tell you based on some of my “fan mail” that the answer is something like: “Absolutely not, bigot.” But we are better than that, right? We don’t want young women to feel that children, planned or unplanned, are punishments, do we?

What are we grateful for? What could we do better? These kinds of questions are essential as we celebrate July 4 this year. It’s more than a non-socially distanced barbecue this year. It’s an opportunity to begin again in the spirit of friendship in freedom with some humility and patriotic grace, to borrow a phrase from Peggy Noonan – an American who loves the best of her country, and has gotten some grief for it. We can seek the best in common cause for love, life and real, true freedom from the kind of coercive ideology that leads to tyranny.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.” She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan’s pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

Mental health toll from isolation affecting kids on reentry

By LINDSEY TANNER
Associated Press

After two suicidal crises during pandemic isolation, 16-year-old Zach Sampson feels stronger but worries his social skills have gone stale.

Amara Bhatia has overcome her pandemic depression but the teen feels worn down, in a state of “neutrality.” Virginia Shipp is adjusting but says returning to normal “is kind of unnormally for me.”

After relentless months of social distancing, online schooling and other restrictions, many kids are feeling the pandemic’s toll or facing new challenges navigating reentry.

A surge in teen suicide attempts and other mental health crises prompted Children’s Hospital Colorado to declare a state of emergency in late May, when emergency department and hospital inpatient beds were overrun with suicidal kids and those struggling with other psychiatric problems. Typical emergency-department waiting times for psychiatric treatment doubled in May to about 20 hours, said Jason Williams, a pediatric psychologist at the hospital in Aurora.

Other children’s hospitals are facing similar challenges. In typical times, the activities that come as the school year ends – finals, prom, graduations, summer job-seeking – can be stressful even for the most resilient kids. But after more than a year of dealing with pandemic restrictions, many are worn down and simply don’t “have enough in the tank of resilience” to handle stresses that previously would have been manageable, Williams said.

“When the pandemic first hit, we saw a rise in severe cases in crisis evaluation,” as kids struggled with “their whole world shutting down,” said Christine Certain, a mental health counselor who works with Orlando Health’s Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. “Now, as we see the world opening back up, ... it’s asking these kids to make a huge shift again.”

At some children’s hospitals, psychiatric cases have remained high throughout the pandemic; others have seen a more recent surge.

At Wolfson Children’s Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, behavioral unit admissions for kids in crisis aged 13 and younger have been soaring

since 2020 and are on pace to reach 230 this year, more than four times higher than in 2019, said hospital psychologist Terrie Andrews. For older teens, admissions were up to five times higher than usual last year and remained elevated as of last month.

At Dayton Children’s Hospital in Ohio, admissions to the mental health unit increased by 30 percent from July 2020 through May, totaling almost 1,300. The hospital doubled the number of available beds to 24 and dropped the minimum age for treatment to 9 years from 12 years, said Dr. John Duby, a hospital vice president.

“The overwhelming demand for pediatric mental health services is putting an unprecedented strain on pediatric facilities, primary care, schools and community-based organizations that support kids’ well-being,” said Amy Knight, president of the Children’s Hospital Association.

Dr. Alison Tothy, medical director of the pediatric emergency department at the University of Chicago’s Comer Children’s Hospital, said her ER has seen kids in crisis daily since last year, struggling with suicidal thoughts, cutting and other self-harm behaviors, depression and aggressive outbursts. Kids are stabilized and referred elsewhere for treatment.

“Families are coming to us because we are, in some cases, the last resort. Outpatient resources are scarce,” and parents say they can’t get an appointment for two months, she said.

In Florida, waits for outpatient treatment are even longer and many therapists don’t accept kids insured through Medicaid, Andrews said.

At Children’s Hospital Colorado, emergency department visits for behavioral health problems were up 90 percent in April 2021 over April 2019 and remained high in May. Though the pace slowed in June, hospital authorities are concerned about another spike when school resumes.

Williams said issues the hospital is treating are “across the board,” from children with previous mental health issues that have worsened to those who never struggled before the pandemic.

Like many states, Colorado doesn’t have enough child and teen mental health therapists to meet demand, an issue even before the pandemic.

ic, Williams said.

Children who need outpatient treatment are finding it takes six to nine months for an appointment. And many therapists don’t accept health insurance, leaving struggling families with few options. Delays in treatment can lead to crises that land kids in the ER.

Those who improve after inpatient psychiatric care but aren’t well enough to go home are being sent out of state because there aren’t enough facilities in Colorado, Williams said.

Sampson says “just a lot of stuff” triggered his first crisis last August. The Jacksonville, Florida, teen struggled with online education and spent hours in his room alone playing video games and scrolling the internet, drawn to dark sites that “made my brain hurt.”

He revealed his suicidal thoughts to a friend, who called the police. He spent a week in the hospital under psychiatric care.

Both his parents have worked in mental health jobs but had no idea how he was struggling.

“We had realized he had been spending more time isolating, not really tending to showering and that type of stuff, but we were in the middle of a pandemic. No one was really doing those things,” said his mother, Jennifer Sampson.

The teen started virtual psychotherapy but in March his self-destructive thoughts resurfaced. Hospital psychiatric beds were full so he waited a week in a holding area to receive treatment, his mother recalled.

Now on mood stabilizers, he’s continuing therapist visits, has finished sophomore year and is looking forward to returning to in-person school this fall. Still, he says it’s hard motivating himself to leave the house to go to the gym or hang out with friends.

“I definitely find my social skills are rusty,” Sampson said.

“I feel that this is going to be something that we’re dealing with for quite a while,” his mother said.

That’s likely true, too, for those who haven’t reached a crisis point.

Bhatia, a 17-year-old self-described “stereotypical introvert” with clinical anxiety, also worries about returning to the classroom for senior year.

‘Our backyard’: Tragedy strikes home for Miami-Dade rescuers

By BOBBY CAINA CALVAN and RUSS BYNUM
Associated Press

SURFSIDE, Fla. — Search and rescue teams from Miami-Dade are considered among the best and most experienced in the world, dispatched to epic disaster scenes far beyond Florida – from the rubble of the World Trade Center to earthquake-ravaged Haiti, Mexico and the Philippines.

This time disaster struck at home.

The rescuers are searching urgently for the scores of souls buried beneath the fallen 12-story wing of the Champlain Towers condo building. As of Tuesday morning, more than five days after the collapse, the death toll stood at 11, with 150 people unaccounted for.

“It’s personal,” said Miami-Dade County’s former fire chief, Dave Downey, a 37-year veteran of the department who retired two years ago but joined the search.

“I’d much rather be giving help than asking for help, but right now it’s in our own backyard,” he said from a command trailer near the pile of broken concrete and twisted metal.

Crews from across Florida and from Mexico and Israel have descended on Surfside to join the effort. More than 400 rescue workers are at the scene, rotating in and out from the rubble every 45 minutes during 12-hour shifts. At any given time, six or seven squads – each with six members – tramp over the mountain of debris or tunnel into it.



A bucket brigade works to remove debris from the Champlain Towers South Condo collapse on Monday in Surfside, Fla.

The search for survivors continued amid anguished pleas from family for rescuers to work more quickly. On-and-off downpours have not stopped the crews. Nor did a smoky fire smoldering deep within the ruins. The oppressive Florida heat hasn’t helped either.

The current fire chief, Alan Cominsky, grew emotional as he talked about the first hours after emergency crews arrived at the horrifying scene early Thursday.

“Wow, wow. The rescue efforts that we did, what

we went through, going on those initial first hours in this environment at 1:30 in the morning,” he said. “So, I’m just trying to emphasize the magnitude of what we’re encountering, what were seeing. And we still keep pushing forward.”

Joseph A. Barbera, an expert at George Washington University on search and rescue, crossed paths with a team from Miami-Dade in 1990 while advising rescuers in the Philippines.

“They have a very strong reputation,” said Barbera,

noting that the Miami-Dade search and rescue task force predates many of the other teams put in place in the United States and internationally. “I’m very confident that they will continue to do a great job.”

They’ve had lots of practice.

In 1985, a Miami-Dade team rushed to Mexico City, where an 8.1-magnitude earthquake crumbled homes and buildings, killing some 5,000 people. A decade later, the department sent personnel to Oklahoma City after the truck bombing at a fed-

eral building that killed 168 people.

Then on to earthquakes in Turkey, Taiwan and Colombia.

The 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001 sent Florida crews to the World Trade Center, an especially emotional assignment. Many of the dead pulled from the debris were first responders who had rushed in to save lives.

But there were episodes of hope in Port-au-Prince, Haiti – devastated by an earthquake in 2010 – whenever rescuers pulled out a survivor.

A reporter for the Christian Science Monitor recounted witnessing a Miami-Dade crew going into a collapsed building to save three children, ages 5, 7 and 14, while a frantic mother looked on from the street.

There have been other tragedies at home, including the collapse in 2012 of a parking structure under construction at Miami Dade College that killed four workers. But perhaps nothing has hit as hard as this most recent disaster.

No one has been pulled out alive from the ruins since the first hours after the building fell. Rescue workers have had to move cautiously amid the precarious pile of debris.

“Those first responders are breaking their backs trying to find anybody they can,” Gov. Ron DeSantis said Tuesday.

Alfredo Lopez, who lived on the sixth floor of the condominium complex, in a portion that remained standing, bristled at complaints that crews weren’t working hard enough or fast enough.

“When we got out there that night, I could see nothing but ambulances and fire trucks and police cars,” he said. “Perhaps they didn’t get in there soon enough because they didn’t know what the hell was going on, like none of us.”

A seven-member search and rescue team from Mexico’s Jewish community is using for the first time a \$23,000 suitcase-size device that uses microwave radar to see through 40 feet of shattered concrete and can detect signs of breathing and heartbeats. The team has also used dogs to sniff for victims.

Woman’s marital arrangement causes family strife

DEAR ABBY: My adult daughter is married. She also has a boyfriend. Both of these men live with her and share her bed. Her children are horrified by it and want nothing to do with their mother. They are embarrassed and ashamed, as am I. Her older children are of age but still in school. They would like to move out but can’t afford to; the youngest is a minor and afraid of the boyfriend. My daughter’s husband doesn’t object to the share plan. Is there anything I can do to help the kids? – Crowded Bed In Colorado

DEAR CROWDED: Why is your youngest grandchild afraid of your daughter’s boyfriend? Has he been physically or emotionally abusive or “grooming” her? If you don’t know the answer, it is important you find out so you can intervene, if necessary. If there is physical abuse or possibly grooming going on, CPS should be notified. A potential solution might be to invite your grandchildren to live with you until they are out of school and able to live on their own. Your daughter, her husband and her boyfriend may be happier with all of the children out of the picture. Parents of the year, they are not.

DEAR ABBY: I need your advice on a certain topic. I’m in my early 30s, and my husband is in his early 20s. We’re currently living with my mother-in-law, who has put a damper on my and my husband’s relationship. She tells my husband what to do, tries to make decisions for him and doesn’t give him a choice about anything.

My husband and I have been talking about moving when the time is right, but she continues to put her 2 cents in. I have been treated like crap by his mother after doing everything possible to help her. I don’t know what to do at this point. I’m slowly pulling away from the man I love, and he doesn’t seem to care. What should I do? – Stuck In Ohio

DEAR STUCK: Your husband is barely out of his teens. It may have been an oversight, but you omitted the most important fact from your letter. WHY ARE YOU TWO LIVING WITH HIS MOTHER? She treats him like a child because that’s the way she has always treated him. If you want to save your marriage, move heaven and earth to get the two of you out of there so he can grow up to be independent.

DEAR ABBY: My husband’s birthday is on the same day as our grandson’s first communion. Our grandson’s family lives out of town, about a day’s drive. The problem is, my husband is not Catholic and doesn’t want to go because he doesn’t want to spend his birthday driving and sitting in a church. I am so torn. Should I push it? He was upset when I told him I wanted to go. He feels I should put him before the children and grandchildren. – In The Middle

DEAR IN THE MIDDLE: Your husband is being childish and selfish. Your grandchild will have only one first communion, while you and your husband can celebrate his birthday on another day. Can you get to the site by other means of transportation to spare him the driving? He should be ashamed of himself. I hope his candle goes out before he makes a wish!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Loud noise
- 5 Lounge
- 8 Zen question
- 12 What hulks pump
- 13 Strong alkali
- 14 Drama prize
- 15 Fictional plantation
- 16 Letterhead abbr.
- 17 Had on
- 18 Cries like a baby
- 20 Flying toys
- 22 Goddess of dawn
- 23 Discoverer’s shout
- 24 Goes in the ditch
- 27 Fast-talked
- 30 — Wieder-sehen
- 31 Adder’s cousin
- 32 “You don’t say!”
- 34 Married woman’s title
- 35 Antenna type
- 37 Aberdeen’s river
- 38 Pooch

- 40 In a tedious manner
- 42 Building extension
- 43 — Vadis?”
- 44 Upholstery choice
- 46 Gemstone
- 49 Dump, so to speak
- 50 Rope-a-dope boxer
- 52 Rainbow goddess
- 54 Walkie-talkie word
- 55 Seance sound
- 56 New Jersey cagers
- 57 Not hard
- 58 Fabric meas.
- 59 Put on weight

DOWN

- 1 Computer datum
- 2 Spirited steed
- 3 Ibsen heroine
- 4 Nibbled
- 5 Utter delight
- 6 Ms. Rand
- 7 Guesses

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	E	E	F	H	E	W	K	E	L	P
O	M	A	R	A	L	I	O	L	E	O
P	U	C	E	H	A	N	N	I	B	A
S	H	U	N	T	O	E	A	P	E	
F	I	G		A	I	D	A		A	I
A	B	O	A	R	D				K	H
K	E	R							D	E
E	X	E	C		W	R	A	P		P
A	B	S		A	D	D		C	O	M
P	R	O	L	O	G	U	E		R	O
S	E	R	E		E	C	O		M	U
O	D	E	S		D	E	N		S	E

- 8 Act servile
- 9 Woodwind instrument
- 10 Makes public
- 11 Society column word
- 19 — Gatos, Calif.
- 21 Flapjack chain (hyph.)
- 24 Malone of “Cheers”
- 25 Northern Iraqi
- 26 In that case (2 wds.)
- 27 Under lock and key
- 28 Swirling water
- 29 Combat for two
- 33 “Look this way!”
- 35 Repulsive
- 36 Everest conqueror
- 39 Country squires
- 40 Couple
- 41 Rodeo event
- 43 Ear swabs (hyph.)
- 44 “— Zapata!”
- 45 Cousteau’s islands
- 47 Survey finding
- 48 Rigatoni kin
- 49 Slangy coffee
- 51 Fellow
- 53 9-digit no.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
	18				19			20	21			
				22				23				
24	25	26					27			28	29	
30							31			32		33
34					35	36				37		
	38	39						40	41			
				42				43				
	44	45					46			47	48	
49						50	51			52		53
54						55				56		
57						58				59		

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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

3		6		1	8			5				
						6	4					3
				4			7	3			1	
		1				4						6
		6	2						8	3		
4							9				5	
		5			4	1		3				
2					9	3						
			3			2	6	7				5

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION												
2	6	4	5	8	3	1	7	9				
3	9	7	6	2	1	4	5	8				
8	5	1	9	7	4	2	3	6				
9	3	2	8	1	5	6	4	7				
5	1	6	7	4	2	8	9	3				
4	7	8	3	6	9	5	1	2				
7	4	9	2	5	8	3	6	1				
6	2	5	1	3	7	9	8	4				
1	8	3	4	9	6	7	2	5				

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TLOGA
□ □ □ □ □
FNISF
□ □ □ □ □
SWEFET
□ □ □ □ □
RUYOLH
□ □ □ □ □

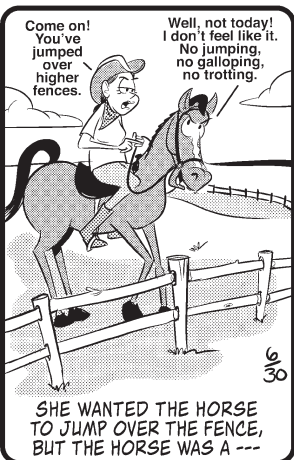
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“□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ - □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □”

Saturday’s Jumbles: DODGE ZESTY DONKEY PARDON Answer: Their father made small devices and gadgets and loved showing off the — DOODADS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

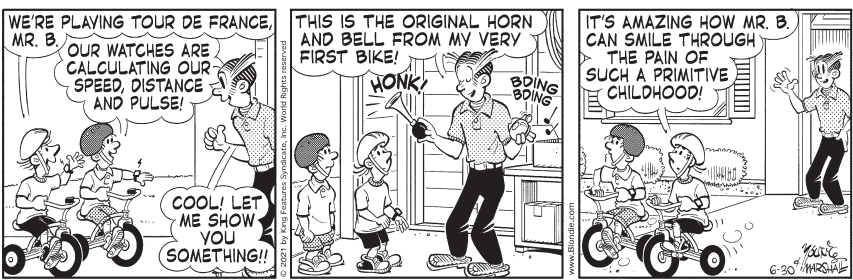


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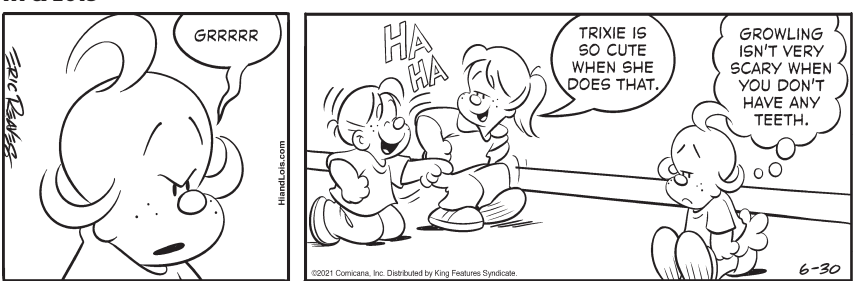
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



BC



WIZARD OF ID



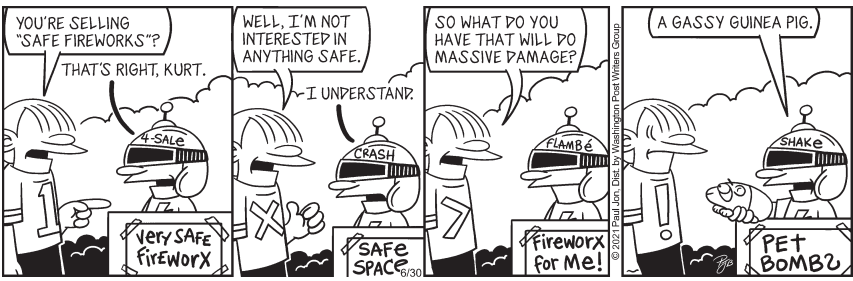
DILBERT



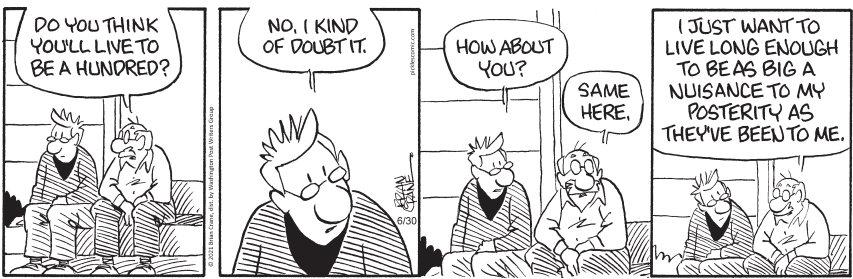
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



God told Noah to ‘build an ark’

Q: A television documentary told the story of Noah and the Ark but said that it was not a true story. Most Christians believe the flood really did happen. Does it really matter? – B.R.

A: Just because the Great Flood is an epic story does not mean that it isn’t true. The Bible is filled with reality and the story of Noah is a fascinating one, indeed, and important. God told Noah to “build an ark.” Noah was perhaps the most unlikely seaman. He knew nothing about sailing the high seas, and he certainly was at a loss as to how to build a boat. But he believed God.

Noah chopped down trees to build an enormous ark on dry land – far from any ocean – because God was going to send a great flood. Destruction was coming to a godless

society. People laughed and mocked Noah, but through his obedience and faith in God, he was the first person in the Bible to be called righteous.

Centuries after Noah lived, Jesus spoke of him. The Bible says that in the days of Noah the world was filled with violence. People loved sin – they idolized sin; they were immersed in sin. The flood was not a natural catastrophe but a moral tsunami. God brought judgment on people who disbelieved Him.

Noah’s building project took

100 years as people heard Noah declare God’s warning, but only Noah and his family climbed aboard the great boat with the animals. It had never rained upon the earth. People scoffed, but Noah believed God and survived the greatest catastrophe the world has ever known.

This is a call to those who do not know that Christ wants to save those from drowning in sin. He wants to lift them up out of the turbulent waters and set them on higher ground. Don’t delay in accepting His salvation.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“D ’ X B A F H B X H F. D I B T H R M A F H B X
B C A F H B P I L M F R I H N R B F N, B C A D L D
X D N N B N R B F R I H C D Y F B E B I B C A L O U
M L P U M O A N.” — X D W H R V N M C

Previous Solution: “I’m doing something I love to do. My wife and kids are in good shape. What is there not to be happy about?” — Chris O’Donnell

TODAY’S CLUE: A s i e n b e L

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

DAILY SCRIPTURE

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

Psalm 33:6

Investigate Surfside collapse for long-term solutions

We have no idea – yet – if the “major error” discovered in the construction of the Champlain Towers South condominium contributed to the building’s partial collapse Thursday morning. We do know, however, that an engineer’s 2018 disclosure, this crumpled building and the deaths of its residents must be the catalyst for changes that ensure this never happens again.

In addition to the immediate, on-the-ground investigations, this tragedy also calls for a Miami-Dade grand jury investigation. Grand juries can decide to investigate matters of great public concern, and they routinely issue reports on broad topics. In Miami-Dade, that has included reports on the health of Biscayne Bay, in 2018, and the preparation for Hurricane Irma, in 2017. A Miami-Dade grand jury in 2018 even tackled condo owners’ complaints, issuing a list of recommended legislation. If ever there were an issue of public concern, the collapse of Champlain Towers South qualifies.

“Historically, this is the sort of thing grand jurors look at,” State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle, who has been to the scene, told the Miami Herald Editorial Board. She said that she and her team have been discussing the idea, but that they are focused first and most urgently on the continuing rescue efforts. Ultimately, it’s up to the jurors to decide if they will investigate, though we can’t imagine a scenario in the case of Champlain in which they wouldn’t.

Already, condo dwellers throughout Greater Miami, and beyond, are demanding to know if their own buildings are safe.

As reported by the Miami Herald’s Sarah Blaskey and Aaron Leibowitz, an engineer’s report in 2018 highlighted a “major error” dating back to the building’s beginnings where the lack of proper drainage on the pool deck caused “major structural damage.” Surfside officials released the report late Friday night.

It is not yet known if this issue played a role in the building’s collapse. But it represents a turning point where grief over the collapse likely will start to turn into outrage.

Miamians are relatively accustomed to disasters of the natural kind, as every hurricane season reminds us. It’s a risk we accept when we choose to live in Florida.

But the collapse of the Champlain Towers South in Surfside was no Category 5 storm, no calculated risk. The people in that building didn’t know they could die in their beds because their 12-story condo might fall down around them, without warning, in the middle of the night.

A recording of the collapse,

caught on another building’s video camera, shows one part of the building crumbling, followed by a second section moments later. The entire, horrifying event is mere seconds long. If the number of missing people is any indication, this could become the worst building collapse in Florida.

The tragedy, which is still unfolding as the death toll rises, has caused ripples of fear in condos dwellers up and down the coast, and inland as well. If a failure like this could happen in a building constructed in 1981, what might happen in older buildings or those with delayed or shoddy maintenance? Champlain Towers South condo was in the process of doing the legally required 40-year structural check-up when it buckled.

Hundreds of thousands of condo residents, perhaps even millions around the country, deserve to know exactly what happened in Surfside. They need to understand what can be done to prevent another collapse, and they need to know that as fast as possible. They need an honest, open – and urgent – investigation of how our condo safeguards went so catastrophically, lethally wrong.

To start, though, we need seamless cooperation with Surfside, Miami-Dade County, the state government and the federal government – regardless of which party holds the top offices. Thursday, County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava signed an emergency order, followed by Florida Gov. DeSantis, who declared a state of emergency in the county, freeing up the flow of federal money and resources that President Biden has indicated would be forthcoming. That’s a baseline of cooperation, and we’re glad to see it.

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration has been on the scene in Surfside, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, is getting involved as well. The city of Miami’s building department is requesting citywide inspections of all buildings six stories or taller that are 40 years old or older. Miami Beach has started examining its 40-year building recertification process.

“We’re not waiting for some engineering report to tell us what happened,” Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber told the Editorial Board. He said he’s been receiving calls from residents concerned about the structural integrity of their buildings.

We expect there will be many more such requests for inspections and calls for reexamining the requirements for safety, as there should be. Municipalities must be ready to take swift action to reassure residents or identify problems. That is the bare minimum – and it’s non-negotiable.

In addition to Fernandez Rundle seeking to involve a grand jury in Miami-Dade, the governor can take his own action, creating a panel of engineers and others with building-construction expertise to dig into the causes of the disaster, which could range from coastal subsidence in the ground below to compromised structural support because of water intrusion, to cite two theories being discussed. For any such effort to succeed – and for residents to trust the results – it’s critical that all investigators be unbiased, without financial or political motivation to cover up or excuse any industry, agency or individual. For DeSantis, who has increasingly specialized in divisive politics, appointing such a board might be particularly difficult. It shouldn’t be.

This collapse should propel real and lasting change. Condo owners have already long complained about how hard it is to get information about simple disputes, finances and problems in their own buildings. The investigation into what happened at Champlain Towers South must break that old pattern for good. If that means writing new laws to govern condo safety – or even a special session – lawmakers should not hesitate.

After Hurricane Andrew flattened houses in 1992, Florida rewrote its hurricane construction code. Those changes were costly to homeowners and homebuilders, but no doubt saved many lives. While we don’t know if this condo disaster is the result of construction shortcuts or other building flaws, an independent and unassailable panel is the best way to find out. And if retrofitting old buildings and constructing new ones with added safety features is the way to ensure that nothing like this happens again, that absolutely must be done, no matter the cost – and no matter the politics.

While it is far too early to determine the root cause of the tragedy in Surfside, the safeguards Florida has in place to prevent this kind of disaster clearly weren’t enough. Scores of people are still missing. Searchers are working around the clock, risking their own lives looking for signs of life in the rubble. Lawsuits are already being filed.

There’s a gaping wound in Miami’s psyche now, shaped like the shorn-away side of Champlain Towers South. Before the blame-shifting begins, as it no doubt will, let’s honor the people who lost their lives Thursday with a full, fact-finding investigation and a list of recommendations.

This horror must never be repeated.

This editorial was first published in the Miami Herald.

How do we use our land assets to achieve community goals?

By KYLE MAY

Very little development has occurred in Wabash County over the past two decades. Between 2000 and 2019, fewer than 600 acres transitioned from agricultural or undeveloped to developed. That’s roughly 30 acres per year – the size of eight blocks in downtown Wabash. Compared to other counties in the region, this growth is small and represents just two-tenths of one percent of the total landmass of the county.

One of the primary assets in the county is the diverse collection of places from urban to rural to natural. But the rural spaces dominate. At just over 220,000 acres (345 square miles), agricultural land encompasses 82 percent of the county’s 412 square miles. At the current growth trend, it would take until 2094 to develop just one percent of the county’s total agricultural land. In a recent series of Imagine One 85 focus groups, local leadership stressed the importance of finding places for positive community growth.

“Farming and agriculture are essential parts of our identity as a community. We can maintain that legacy, and identify key areas for additive growth. It’s not a zero-sum game. It’s about balance, planning, and a realistic understanding of the inhibitors to population growth,” said a local leader in one of the Imagine One 85 Focus Group conversations.

Community zoning maps support modest expansions, especially related to housing and employment districts. Of the 23,000 acres zoned for residential, only 60 percent is currently built. If the remaining 9,500 acres were developed – even at the low density of one unit per acre – the communities could create more than 6,650 housing units or homes for 15,000 new residents. Industrial growth capacity is even greater with only 29 percent of the zoned footprint currently developed.

Physical growth and development are not limited to outward expansion. There is a significant opportunity for redevelopment and reinvestment in each of the communities across the county. And there are several advantages to this including re-utilizing existing infrastructure, increasing property values, and adding richness and life back into legacy neighborhoods. Local property developer Justin Gillespie sees particular advantages to this type of work in the county’s smaller communities.

“To grow our county as a whole will require the involvement and participation of every community. Each community has something to offer no matter how big or small. The challenge is to find what characteristics, services, or historical significance make those places great and capitalize on them. This has been my focus in my hometown. It just takes the courage of a few to make the leap and then build on the momentum,” said Justin Gillespie, a local developer.

Gillespie is starting to leave a mark on Lagro. In just two years of work, the hobbyist developer has already transformed his small stretch of Washington Street, starting with a major remodel of a mid-1800s home. Since posting the property to AirBnB as a local lodging option, the unit has been occupied every weekend with visitors from Chicago and beyond. He’s since moved on to bigger plans next door and is closing on the final stages of his downtown Lagro Brewpub. Located right along the Wabash Trail, Justin hopes to capitalize on the growing vibrancy in and around the county.

Imagine One 85 is a process to confront the population challenge head-on.

Through direct engagement with the community and stakeholders and in-depth analysis of the county’s conditions and trends, the Steering Committee is working to develop a strong and visionary plan to help lead the communities of the county toward growth. A recent presentation by the group revealed that the county would need to grow by 85 new families or households each year to recapture its previous population high in 25 years. The “+85” initiative is emerging as a central recommendation of the comprehensive plan with strategies focused squarely at the challenge.

On Wednesday, July 14 the Steering Committee will host an event to explore the challenges and potential of Wabash County. The Imagine One 85 Growth Summit will be a unique and interactive moment for community members to share and make a direct impact on their community. The meeting will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on the Honeywell Plaza and include food and entertainment highlighting the best of Wabash County. Attendance is free and registration is available on the project website, www.imagineone85.org.

This is the fourth in a multi-part series developed to share the major findings of the Imagine One 85 analysis and community conversations. For more information on the content or reports please contact Imagine One 85 project manager Kyle May by email at kyle@planning-next.com. The full series will also be shared on the process website, www.imagineone85.org.



LETTER

The United States needs allies

President Biden is working on reestablishing and nurturing our relationships with our allies in the world.

We are recommitting the United States to backing our European allies against the influence and territorial ambitions of Russia, and NATO is the key organization positioned to block Russian moves in Europe, and it is needed to help

combat Russia’s cyberattacks on our infrastructure.

In the Far East China is significantly expanding its military and reach in the South China Sea. Our support of Taiwan, The Philippines, and Japan is critical to containing China’s ambitions in the region. As a counterweight to China, we should probably encourage Japan to embark on a limited build-up of its military forces, especially its Navy and missile capabilities. Additionally, we have to counter

China’s pilfering of our intellectual property. South Korea needs ongoing support to deter North Korean threats.

In the Middle East Iran poses a threat to its neighbors and U.S. interests in the region. Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt, Jordan and other countries in the region need our backing to counter any Iranian moves. Israel is the only democratic country in the Middle East, and it is a high-tech and military bulwark standing in the way of Iran

and the Islamic terrorist factions who want to destroy the Western world. Israel’s survival is strategically important to the United States and the Western world.

We have to continue to support countries in South America and Central America to contain Cuba and Venezuela.

We are back as the leader of the Free World.

**Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry,
New Hampshire**

Christmas in July planned at Mississinewa Lake

The public and campers are invited on Saturday, July 17

STAFF REPORT

The public and campers are invited to join us for an assortment of activities at Mississinewa Lake’s Christmas in July on Saturday, July 17 at 4673 S. 625 East, Peru, according to interpretive manager Teresa Rody.

“If you’re camping, be sure to bring your outdoor Christmas decorations and enter the campground decorating contest,” said Rody.

Awards will be announced at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, July 18 at the Interpretive Shelter.

“Saturday morning, fill up on some scrumptious pancakes at the Pancake Breakfast and meet with Santa,” said Rody. “Meet Smokey Bear for his birthday celebration, play a game of corn hole, and try your hand at archery, with a certified shooting sports instructor.”

Activities on Saturday, July 17 will include:

8:30 TO 10:30 A.M.: Pancake Breakfast at Interpretive Shelter brought to you by Friends of UWIS – Mississinewa Lake. Donations accepted.

8:30 TO 10:30 A.M.: Santa at

the Interpretive Shelter. Bring your cameras.

2 P.M.: Youth Archery Shoot near Miami Boat Ramp.

3 P.M.: Corn Hole Registration Begins at Campground Control.

3:30 TO 5 P.M.: Water Games and Corn Hole at Campground Control.

6:15 P.M.: Bike Decorating at Campground Control Gate.

6:15 P.M.: Decorating Shelter at Interpretive Shelter, for those not participating in the parade.

6:45 P.M.: Smokey Bear Parade starts at Campground Control Gate and will only use the front loop of the campground. The campground roads will be closed from 6:45 to 7:10 p.m.

7 P.M.: Smokey Bear Birthday Bash at Interpretive Shelter.

8:30 P.M.: Campsite Decorating Judging.

The Campsite Decorating Awards will be at the Interpretive Shelter at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, July 18.

Campsite reservations may be made by visiting camp.IN.gov or calling 866-622-6746.

Property entrance fees apply of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle. State Park annual entrance passes are available for purchase at the property gate.

In SBC battles, one big sermon can make a difference

Whenever the Southern Baptist Convention gathers in times of trials and turmoil, one thing is certain – someone will preach a sermon that makes a difference.

That’s how Southern Baptists do what they do. These sermons may not produce as many headlines as SBC elections or fiery debates about hot-button social issues.

Terry Mattingly



But the sermons matter.

The big sermon during the 2021 convention in Nashville came at a logical moment – when SBC President J.D. Greear gave his farewell address just before tense voting to elect his successor.

In this “defining moment” address, the leader of the Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, offered a stinging quote about an elephant that has camped in the SBC fellowship hall.

“We have to decide,” Greear said, “if we want our convention primarily to be a political voting bloc or if we want it to be a Great Commission people. ... Whenever the church gets in bed with politics, the church gets pregnant, and the offspring does not look like our Father

in heaven.”

America is important, he stressed. But America is not the whole picture for believers striving to build churches around the world. “God has not called us primarily to save America politically. He has called us to make the Gospel known to all,” said Greear.

Southern Baptists can agree that “no compromise should be tolerated” on crucial social issues, he said. And no one wants to stop defending the inerrant truth of the Bible.

“We are not talking about being ambiguous on the sanctity of life and marriage, the sinfulness of homosexuality, God’s design in gender,” he said. “These are things faithful Christians cannot disagree on, and our consciences are captive in these areas to the Word of God.”

The question, he said, is how SBC leaders and pastors handle these issues when working with seekers and unbelievers. And at some point, Southern Baptists need to admit that they will not agree, every time, on what political strategies to use while defending doctrine.

“When we make our political calculus synonymous with Gospel faithfulness, we do a disservice to Christ,” he stressed. Sometimes, “Gospel maturity means knowing which things should divide, and which should not.”

The SBC’s presidential election was tight, with Rev. Ed Litton of Alabama receiving 52 percent in a runoff with Rev. Mike Stone of Georgia – a 556-vote win. Stone is a leader in the growing Conservative Baptist Network, which has attacked Greear, Litton and other centrists in what remains a very conservative SBC on doctrinal issues.

Nevertheless, this convention took actions that were hard to label, such as:

Changing the SBC constitution to break “friendly cooperation” with churches that fail to act in a manner consistent “with the Convention’s beliefs” on sexual abuse and those that “affirm, approve or endorse discriminatory behavior on the basis of ethnicity.”

Overwhelmingly approving – after leaked recordings raised questions about some SBC leaders downplaying sexual abuse accusations – a third-party investigation of 20 years of work by its own Executive Committee.

Passing a resolution condemning China’s campaign of “genocide” against Uyghurs and other ethnic Muslims, while asking U.S. leaders to “prioritize the admission of Uyghurs to this country as refugees.”

Approving a resolution condemning the “Capitol insurrection of Jan. 6, 2021 ...

as inconsistent with faithful Christian citizenship.”

While refusing to condemn or endorse critical race theory, the convention rejected “any theory or worldview that finds the ultimate identity of human beings in ethnicity or in any other group dynamic,” as well as repudiating “any theory or worldview that denies that racism, oppression or discrimination is rooted, ultimately, in anything other than sin.”

It’s crucial, Greear stressed, for Southern Baptists to listen to the concerns of Black Southern Baptists – engaging in “robust, careful, Bibles-open, on-our-knees discussions” about CRT and racism.

“Justice is a major theme in our Bibles,” he added, and “of course Satan, the angel of light, is going to produce counterfeits for it, and on this issue we need to ensure that we are more shaped by the Scriptures than we are by the world.” But the SBC must make it “clear that we stand with our brothers and sisters of color in their suffering, lamenting the pain of their past and pledging to work tirelessly for justice in our present.”

Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.

PULSE

From page A1

Downtown Wabash Shop Hop concludes

Shop Hop has returned to downtown Wabash through Wednesday, June 30 and includes a chance to win a prize of \$100 in Shop Hop Dollars, which are redeemable at the participating businesses. Participants will take a June Shop Hop form to each participating business and receive a validation mark, no purchase necessary. Once the Shop Hop form is 100 percent completed, participants will submit their form to one of the participating businesses or Bickford of Wabash, 3037 W. Division Road. June Shop Hop forms must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 30 for a chance to win. The four downtown businesses participating in June’s Shop Hop include Modoc’s Market, 205 S. Miami St.; JoJo’s Ol’ Factory & Co., 36 W. Canal St.; Wooden Ivy Boutique & Floral, 12 W. Market St.; and Eclectic Shoppe, 42 W. Canal St. Entry forms are available at each of the participating businesses and a digital copy of the form is available at WabashMarketplace.org.

Project Learning Tree Workshop to be held

Educators are invited to participate in a Project Learning Tree (PLT) K-8 workshop from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, July 9 at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The workshop fee of \$23 includes a copy of the guide. The fee is payable by check (made out to IFEF/PLT) or cash, payable on the day of the workshop. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages will be provided. Advance registration is required with a deadline of Friday, July 2. Limited space is available. For more information, call 260-468-2127 or email trody@dnr.in.gov.

Dr. Ford Home announces ‘fun, family-friendly’ event lineup

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment welcomes guests of all ages to Dr. James Ford Historic Home, 177 W. Hill St., for a full schedule of fun, family-friendly events in 2021, including an Ice Cream Social from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 2; The American Front Porch at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14; Autumn Festival from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1; Trick or Treat at the Home during the city of Wabash’s trick-or-treat hours; and Wabash and Erie Canal history program with Jeff Koehler at

7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/dr-ford-home.

Wabash, North Manchester fireworks displays set

Wabash city’s fireworks were being planned for dusk Sunday, July 4, with a rain date of Monday, July 5. The 2021 North Manchester Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Display will be at 10 p.m. Saturday, July 3 at Manchester High School. The rain date is Sunday, July 4. The free celebration kicks off at 7 p.m. with the Manchester Civic Band. Families and individuals are encouraged to come early to find a spot. Lawn chairs or blankets will make viewing more comfortable. Parking is available at Manchester High School, Manchester Administrative Building and Manchester Recreation Association lots. For the safety of guests, no alcohol, sparklers or personal fireworks are permitted.

Salamonie Senior Luncheon planned for Monday, July 5

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon Monday, July 5, at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. Join Huntington County Purdue Extension educator Caroline Everidge, as she gives tips and tricks on “Safety from Scams.” The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. The main dish is provided by Friends of the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services. A \$1 donation will be accepted to help defray costs. Seating is limited. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127.

Salamonie Preschool offers ‘D is for Decomposition’

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool’s “D is for Decomposition.” Children ages 2 to 5 and their adults are welcome to attend the class from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 14 at Salamonie Interpretive Center located in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information, visit facebook.com/upperwabash.

Second Harvest to hold a tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesdays, July 28 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, July 14 at the Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410.

Christmas in July planned at Salamonie Lake

The public and campers are invited to join us for an assortment of activities at Salamonie Lake’s Christmas in July from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 24 at 9214 W. Lost Bridge West, Andrews. Awards will be announced at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, July 25 at the Interpretive Shelter. Campsite reservations may be made by visiting camp.IN.gov or calling 866-622-6746. Property entrance fees apply of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle. State Park annual entrance passes are available for purchase at the property gate.

Salamonie Lake workdays continue throughout summer

Salamonie Lake’s Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, will host volunteer workdays at 9 a.m. Monday, July 26; 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 16; and 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. For more information, visit 260-468-2127.

MSD Summer Food Program to provide free breakfasts, lunches

The MSD Summer Food Program will provide weekly meals free of charge for children ages 1 through 18 throughout the MSD area. Throughout the summer, families may pick up five day’s worth of breakfasts and lunches for each child in their household that meets the age criteria from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays through July 28 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North, and Southwood High School on the east side of the building, 564 Indiana 124.

Summer at the Wabash County Museum continues

For preschool families with children ages 0 to 5, “Bear Den Days” will be held from

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and 1:30 to 3 p.m. every Wednesday at 36 E. Market St. Sessions will begin with a weekly theme-based story and activity before moving into the Bear Den for an hour of playtime with friends. Registration is recommended due to limited capacity. Admission will be free to those who register in advance. Registration is available at www.wabashmuseum.org/events. Through Friday, July 30, the Wabash County Museum will offer the “Museum Explorers” opportunity for young people who have just completed kindergarten through sixth grades. Youth can visit the Wabash County Museum from Tuesdays through Fridays all summer long to participate in a scavenger hunt where they will find clues in the Wabash County Museum’s various exhibits to win prizes. A different scavenger hunt may be completed each week for the chance to enter an end-of-summer drawing to win one of several large prizes. Accompanying adults will be subject to the standard admission price unless they have a current museum membership. For more information, visit www.wabashmuseum.org.

INDOT to begin maintenance work on Indiana 13 bridge over Mississinewa

INDOT announced bridge maintenance work would soon begin on Indiana 13 over the Mississinewa River. Crews will be conducting the bridgework seven miles south of Wabash between Whites Drive and Howell Road. The work is expected to last until mid-August. During construction, Indiana 13 will be reduced to one lane. Traffic should be prepared to stop and obey the temporary traffic signal. There’s a width limit of 12 feet in the project zone.

YMCA offers summer meals

The Wabash County YMCA announced their free breakfast and lunch program for children ages 18 and under will be from 8 to 9 a.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch Mondays through Fridays, through Friday, Aug. 6, at 500 S. Cass St. For more information, visit www.wabashcountymca.org or email info@wabashcountymca.org.

‘Liking for Biking’ returns

Through Saturday, Aug. 28, anyone of any age or skill level who is interested in a free, family-friendly hour-long bike ride is invited to meet at 8:45 a.m. each

Saturday at Paradise Spring Historical Park’s upper pavilion, 351 W. Market St. Helmets are required. The next health assessment will take place at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 inside of door 10 at Parkview Wabash Hospital, 10 John Kissinger Drive, while the rest of the rides will start at Paradise Spring Historical Park with wheels rolling at 9 a.m. Masks are required inside Parkview Wabash Hospital for health assessments. For more information, www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series or call 260-563-7171.

Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market running every Saturday

The Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market continues its 2021 season from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays through Saturday, Sept. 26 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elks parking lot on the corner of Cass and Market St. Vendors are still being accepted for full-season, half-season and one-time rates. To become a vendor for the 2021 Market, visit WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market or call 260-563-0975. For more information about Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market, visit WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market.

8th annual Car and Bike Show Bike Ride for Riley Kids planned

The Clown Town Motorcycles and Sharp Shooters Express will present the 8th annual Car and Bike Show Bike Ride for Riley Kids on Saturday, Oct. 2 at the American Legion Post No. 248, 800 Washington St., Lagro. Car show registration will be \$15 per car and will begin at 11 a.m., with kickstands up and entertainment starting at noon. For more information, call 260-466-7655.

Honeywell Ladies Golf Association season continues

The Tuesday Honeywell Ladies Golf Association (LGA) will begin their season with a 9 a.m. shotgun Tuesdays, according to Lana Garber. The yearly dues of \$15 will be taken then. New members are welcome. Arrive at 8:30 a.m. All Tuesday events are scrambles. Register in the clubhouse by noon Monday.

Honeywell Pool to open on a limited basis

For the time being, the Mark C. Honeywell Pool will be open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sat-

urdays each week. For more information, visit www.wabashcountymca.org.

‘Explore Salamonie’ hikes to be held monthly

Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services for an “Explore Salamonie” hike at 5 p.m. during each month’s first Saturday through September at Salamonie’s Interpretive and Nature Center at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Wear appropriate footwear, clothing and bring along your water bottle, sunscreen and bug spray. A set of binoculars or cameras may come in handy. Each hike is open to the public and geared for families. Each hike will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127. Property entrance fees of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle apply. State Park Annual Entrance Passes are available for purchase.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabash-plaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

Biden selling big infrastructure deal

By **JOSH BOAK**
and **JONATHAN LEMIRE**
Associated Press

LA CROSSE, Wis. — President Joe Biden declared America urgently needs a “generational investment” in its infrastructure, as he looked to sell voters Tuesday on the economic benefits of the \$973 billion bipartisan package that still faces an uncertain future in Congress.

Biden traveled to La Crosse, Wisconsin, population 52,000, and toured its public transit center, high-lighting projects – including hybrid buses and road repair equipment – that would receive additional funding from the infrastructure bill. He argued that the package, which is held together in large part by the promise of millions of new jobs, is a way for the United States to assert both the principles of democracy and the economic might that can come from dramatic investments in the country’s future.

“This deal isn’t just the sum of its parts. It’s a signal to ourselves, and to the world, that American democracy can come through and deliver for all our people,” said Biden. “America has always been propelled into the future by landmark investments.”

He said there is a critical need to improve crumbling

infrastructure – from overwhelmed power grids to lead-filled water pipes to traffic-clogged roads – and stressed that the effort needs to be ambitious to not only improve Americans’ daily lives now but also to combat the growing challenges of climate change.

“We’re not just tinkering around the edges,” Biden said.

He also made his pitch in personal terms, reminiscing about driving a bus during law school and noting the 1972 traffic accident that killed his first wife and daughter, as he called for improvements to make the nation’s roads safer.

The visit to Wisconsin was the beginning of what the White House has declared will be a series of presidential trips to sell the bipartisan bill – and to reassure the nervous Republicans who helped craft it.

“I’m going to be out there making the case for the American people until this job is done, until we bring this bipartisan bill home,” said the president, though he allowed that “there will be more disagreements to be resolved, more compromises” to be made.

The process briefly fell into disarray late last week as Biden suggested the deal would be held up until he received a much larger, separate package for infrastruc-

ture, jobs and education that would be determined solely by Democrats through Congress’ “budget reconciliation” process.

Biden said Saturday that this was not a veto threat, and by Sunday the package appeared back on track. But there were still anxieties on both sides of the aisle.

Some Republicans have questioned the wisdom of signing onto a bipartisan bill if it is linked to a party-line reconciliation bill that will contain a host of additional Democratic priorities. And GOP Senate Leader Mitch McConnell, who has often declared his steadfast opposition to the Biden agenda, has questioned the process.

Meanwhile, a balancing act awaited among Democrats as well: Some more liberal members of the party have urged Biden to push for a Democrats-only bill at least as large as his previously stated \$4 trillion goal, while some more moderate members have signaled they’d want a much smaller number. With the Senate deadlocked 50-50, with ties broken by Vice President Kamala Harris, the White House can’t afford to lose a single vote.

As Biden trumpeted the bipartisan first version in public, the White House furiously worked behind the scenes to keep it on track.

Senior West Wing aides, including top adviser Steve Ricchetti, met with House Democrats at the Capitol on Tuesday. Others have had calls this week with more than 60 Democratic and Republican members and chiefs of staff and other aides, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters aboard Air Force One en route to Wisconsin.

Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., said she and other leaders of the Congressional Progressive Caucus were assured that the strategy remains moving the bipartisan infrastructure and Democrat-only reconciliation bills together. “They seem to be very firm on that strategy, that the bills move simultaneously together and a realization that that’s the only way that we are able to pass” them, said Omar.

Psaki said the White House was going along with the timeline outlined by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, who has said he wants to have both packages on the floor for debate next month.

An internal White House memo highlights how the administration contends the largest investment in transportation, water systems and services in nearly a century would boost growth. The memo notes that the total package is four times the size of the infrastructure

investment made a dozen years ago in response to the Great Recession and the biggest since Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal in the 1930s.

It also emphasizes an analysis suggesting that 90 percent of the jobs generated by the spending could go to workers without college degrees, a key shift as a majority of net job gains before the pandemic went to college graduates.

“This is a blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America,” the memo says.

The visit to La Crosse was indeed a blue-collar political play, with faux traffic construction signs that said “American Jobs Plan” dotted across the venue. The president has long connected with working-class voters, while Wisconsin is one of the trio of Great Lakes states – along with Michigan and Pennsylvania – that Biden narrowly reclaimed for the Democrats after they were captured by Donald Trump in 2016.

Biden, making an impromptu stop for ice cream after his speech, received a suggestion to order the rocky road flavor as a nod to the infrastructure bill but he quipped “it’s been a rocky road, but we’re going to get it done” and instead ordered cookies and cream and strawberry.

Potential economic gains were a shared incentive for

the group of Democratic and Republican senators who agreed to the deal last week. McConnell said he has not yet decided whether he will support the bipartisan package, but he wants Biden to pressure House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Schumer to say they will allow the bipartisan arrangement to pass without mandating that the much larger and broader follow-up bill be in place.

“I appreciate the president saying that he’s willing to deal with infrastructure separately, But he doesn’t control the Congress,” McConnell said this week.

The two bills had always been expected to move in tandem, and that is likely to continue as Biden drops his veto threat but reaches across the aisle for the nearly \$1 trillion bipartisan package as well as his own broader package. The Democratic leaders are pressing ahead on the broader bill, which includes Biden’s families and climate change proposals, as well as their own investments in Medicare, swelling to some \$6 trillion.

One of the Democratic moderates, Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, reiterated Tuesday that he would be amenable to a party-line budget bill but did not address its size.

He told MSNBC that “I have agreed that that can be done.”

Facebook message leads to warrant in years-old rape claim

By **MARYCLAIRE DALE**
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A Pennsylvania judge on Tuesday signed an arrest warrant charging a former Gettysburg College student with sexual assault, nearly eight years after a freshman went to police over a dorm room encounter and a year after she received an online message that said, “So I raped you.”

Police say they are looking for 28-year-old Ian Cleary of Saratoga, California, but had not yet located him. The affidavit filed along with the warrant says police got a search warrant for Cleary’s Facebook account to link him to the message through a matching cell phone number.

The affidavit accuses Cleary, then a junior and a goalie on the ice hockey team, of stalking Shannon Keeler at a fraternity party in December 2013. He then followed her home to her dorm, snuck into her room and sexually assaulted her, the warrant said. As he apologized and fled, Keeler texted friends on campus “OMG please Help me,” according to the warrant.

Keeler had discussed the experience – and her long push for charges – in a recent story by The Associated Press that detailed the frequent reluctance among prosecutors to file charges in campus rape cases. Keeler went to police hours after the encounter and had a

rape kit done at a local hospital, only to graduate three years later without an arrest. Authorities at the time told her it was difficult to prosecute cases when the victim had been drinking, she said. The rape kit was later lost.

“While I am moved to tears by this result, which I have waited for over seven years, I am mindful that this moment came because I went public with my story, which no survivor should have to do in order to obtain justice,” said Keeler, now 26, in a statement issued to AP through her lawyer.

The warrant filed Tuesday was signed by a new county prosecutor, Adams County District Attorney Brian Sinnott. The Gettysburg Police Department reopened the case last year after Keeler showed them a flurry of messages that appeared to come from Cleary’s Facebook account.

The AP previously did not name Cleary because he had not been charged, and had not been able to reach him for comment. Now that the arrest warrant has been issued, The AP is using his name.

A cell phone linked to Cleary rang unanswered Tuesday and did not have voice mail. Messages left at phone numbers associated with his father in California and his mother in Maryland were not immediately returned.

The alleged assault occurred on the final night of Keeler’s first semester at

Gettysburg, when few students were still on campus.

Keeler had stayed an extra day because a snowstorm had delayed her last exam until that Saturday. Cleary never returned to campus after that semester, ending the school’s Title IX investigation, she said.

Victim advocates say that campus sexual assaults frequently occur during a victim’s first year.

Keeler felt she had a strong case, and was persistent in her efforts to gather evidence that included witnesses at the frat party, her frantic texts seeking help, hospital rape exam, and a statement from a male friend who escorted her home from the party to keep her safe – and says Cleary followed them and offered \$20 to leave him alone with Keeler.

“It has bothered me over the years that I was never able to do anything,” said Keeler told the AP this spring. “If you’re not going to help me, who are you going to help? Because I do have evidence.”

Only one in five college sex assault victims report to police. And when they do, prosecutors often hesitate to take cases where victims had been drinking or knew the accused.

Cleary appears to have lived in Europe in recent years, after graduating from a school in California. The efforts to locate him could stretch across the country and overseas, officials said.

NASA looks at Louisiana delta system, eyes global forecasts

By **JANET MCCONNAUGHEY**
Associated Press

MIKE ISLAND, La. — Erosion, sinking land and sea rise from climate change have killed the Louisiana woods where a 41-year-old Native American chief played as a child. Not far away in the Mississippi River delta system, middle-school students can stand on islands that emerged the year they were born.

NASA is using high-tech airborne systems along with boats and mud-slogging work on islands for a \$15 million, five-year study of these adjacent areas of Louisiana. One is hitched to a river and growing; the other is disconnected and dying.

Scientists from NASA and a half-dozen universities from Boston to California aim to create computer models that can be used with satellite data to let countries around the world learn which parts of their dwindling deltas can be shored up and which are past hope.

“If you have to choose between saving an area and losing another instead of losing everything, you want to know where to put your resources to work to save the livelihood of all the people who live there,” said lead scientist Marc Simard of NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

While oceans rise because of climate change, the world’s river deltas – home to seafood nurseries and more than 300 million people – are

sinking and shrinking.

To figure out where to shore up dying deltas, NASA is studying water flowing in and out of Louisiana’s Atchafalaya and Terrebonne basins, sediment carried by it, and plants that can slow the flow, trap sediment and pull carbon from the air.

Louisiana holds 40 percent of the nation’s wetlands, but they’re disappearing fast – about 2,000 square miles of the state have been lost since the 1930s. That’s about 80% of the nation’s wetland losses, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Using two kinds of radar and a spectrometer that measures more colors than the human eye can distinguish, high-altitude NASA airplanes have been collecting information such as water height, slope, sediment, and the types and density of plants. Some measurements are as precise as less than an inch.

On boats and islands, scientists and students from across the country take samples and measure everything from currents to diameters of trees. Their findings will be used to calibrate the airborne instruments.

“I’ve been working here 15 years, and one of the toughest parts about working in a delta is you can only touch one little piece of it at any one time and understand one little piece of it at one time,” said Robert Twilley, a professor of oceanography and coastal sciences at Louisiana State University. “Now we

have the capability of working with NASA to understand the entire delta.”

The Mississippi River drains 41 percent of the continental United States, collecting 150 million tons of sediment per year. But, largely because of flood-prevention levees, most sediment shoots into the Gulf of Mexico rather than settling in wetlands.

“Deltas are the babies of the geological timescale. They are very young and fragile, in a delicate balance of sinking and growing,” NASA states on the Delta-X project website.

In geological time, young means thousands of years. On that scale, Louisiana’s Wax Lake Delta is taking its first breaths. It dates to 1942, when the Army Corps of Engineers dug an outlet from the lake to reduce flood threats to Morgan City, about 20 miles away. Sediment from the Atchafalaya River filled the lake, then began creating islands in the Gulf.

The new islands are thick with black willows and, in spring, thigh-high butterweed topped with small yellow flowers.

Older wetlands in areas surveyed by Delta-X aircraft are more diverse, their soil rich with humus from generations of plants. Along nearby Hog Bayou, blue buntings and scarlet tanagers dart through magnolia branches and skinks skitter up trees. In swamps, ospreys nest atop bald cypresses and alligators float in the water below.

Congressional leaders urge FCC to perform equity audit

By **KAT STAFFORD**
Associated Press

Congressional leaders and a media advocacy group are urging the Federal Communications Commission to examine how policy decisions and programs have disparately harmed Black Americans and other communities of color, according to a letter sent Tuesday to the acting FCC chair.

In the letter, first shared with The Associated Press, Democratic Reps. Jamaal Bowman of New York, Yvette Clarke of New York, and Brenda Lawrence of Michigan along with Media 2070 said the FCC should conduct an assessment to “address and redress” the harm the agency’s policies and programs have caused Black and brown communities and identify the “affirmative steps the agency commits to taking to break down barriers to just

media and telecommunication practices.”

The FCC is an independent governmental agency that is responsible for regulating the nation’s communications by radio, television, wire, satellite and cable. In total, 25 members of Congress signed onto the letter, including Congresswomen Karen Bass of California, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan.

A lack of diversity and representation has long been a concern for media advocates and experts who argue that racism permeates the nation’s media industry, partly because of historical exclusionary policies and regulations that have made it hard for Black Americans and others to control and shape news coverage and other forms of media in communities across the nation.

Media 2070, an initiative created by the Black caucus of

the nonpartisan organization Free Press, has called for media reparations for the Black community and the FCC letter is part of its efforts. Earlier this month it delivered a petition to 3,000 newsrooms across the country, urging news outlets to “dismantle anti-Black racism in the media, trust Black journalists and care for Black communities.”

“Although many journalists and artists of color have used their talent to ensure critical stories about their communities are being told, our nation’s big media companies nevertheless continue to stereotypically depict people of color as being a threat or a burden to society,” the lawmakers wrote in their joint letter to Acting FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel. “Historic federal policies are a primary reason why structural inequities exist in our nation’s media and tele-

communication systems today. FCC policies, license decisions and inaction have had the result of effectively excluding people of color from media ownership opportunities.”

The lawmakers noted the nation’s first radio and TV licenses were awarded by the Federal Radio Commission and then its successor, the FCC, during an era of Jim Crow segregation.

“The (Trump administration’s) efforts to consolidate the media marketplace limited ownership opportunities for people of color and women,” the letter stated.

President Joe Biden signed an executive order in January, directing executive agencies to assess how federal policies have exacted harm upon communities of color. Each agency was tasked with identifying potential barriers that underserved communities and

individuals face in trying to access contracting opportunities and also whether new policies, regulations or guidance documents may be necessary to advance equity.

The order also “strongly encouraged” independent agencies, which would include the FCC, to conduct an assessment.

In a statement to the AP, an FCC spokesperson said Rosenworcel is “committed to ensuring that FCC policies are equitable, fair, and transparent.” Rosenworcel announced last week a plan to expand the work of the recently renamed Communications Equity and Diversity Council. The council’s mission will expand from its initial focus on the “media ecosystem to review more broadly critical diversity and equity issues across the tech sector.”

“She believes that we must

prioritize diversity and expand opportunities for communities that have for too long been overlooked and underserved,” the statement said. “While the FCC is an independent agency, it has been working diligently under her leadership to follow President Biden’s executive order. But more work remains to be done. We are committed to working with those who sent this letter to do so.”

People of color own and control just 6 percent of our nation’s full-power TV stations, 7 percent of commercial FM radio stations and 12 percent of commercial AM radio stations despite making up more than 40 percent of the U.S. population. As of 2017, Black Americans owned or controlled less than 1 percent of television stations, the group said, citing a 2020 FCC, Media Bureau, Industry Analysis Division report.

MU men’s tennis players earn all-HCAC nods

Isaac Miller and Austin Arnold honored

By DILLON BENDER

The Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) announced its 2021 Men’s Tennis All-Conference teams and award winners on Tuesday, May 11. Manchester had several student-athletes garner recognition from the league office on Tuesday afternoon. Senior Isaac Miller, from Millersburg and Fairfield High School, was named First Team All-HCAC. Mill-

er put together an outstanding senior campaign, posting a 9-6 record at No. 1 singles. Miller went 3-2 at No. 1 singles in his five HCAC matches this spring. He also earned a trio of No. 1 doubles victories with teammate Samuel Hollingsworth. A two-time Honorable Mention All-HCAC performer during his Manchester career, Miller was also a two-time HCAC Men’s Tennis Player of the Week honoree. Sophomore Austin Arnold, from Coatesville and South Putnam High School, was also honored by the league office. Arnold picked up Honorable Mention All-HCAC accolades this year. Arnold went 7-7 in his singles matches this year. He

posted a 2-2 mark at No. 3 singles and a 5-5 mark at No. 4 singles. Additionally, Arnold won a trio of doubles matches this season. Arnold led Manchester with a victory at No. 4 singles in the HCAC Tournament, battling past Transylvania’s Hunter Greg 2-6, 7-6 (7-4), 1-0 (10-5). Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

Senior Isaac Miller (right), from Millersburg and Fairfield High School, was named First Team All-HCAC. Sophomore Austin Arnold (far right), from Coatesville and South Putnam High School, was also honored by the league office.

Provided photos



NCAA’s NIL era arrives, and some athletes are ready to cash in

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

Social media stardom came unexpectedly to Haley and Hanna Cavinder. A way to pass time during the pandemic now has Fresno State’s twin sister basketball stars positioned to be among the most successful college-athlete entrepreneurs as soon as the rules allow it.

Ohio State lacrosse player Mitchell Pehlke has been cultivating his online following for years. When NCAA athletes are finally able to monetize their fame without compromising their eligibility, Pehlke is ready to restart the business of his brand.

A new era in college sports dawns Thursday when, for the first time, athletes at the highest levels of college sports will be permitted to be compensated for the use of their name, image or likeness. They can earn money based on their celebrity or fame without running afoul of school, conference or NCAA rules.

The transition has been anything but smooth. More than a half-dozen states have laws set to go into effect Thursday designed to open up the market for athletes and bar the NCAA from interfering. The NCAA is on board with the idea of reforming its NIL rules, but change has come slowly and awkwardly. At some point Congress is expected to step in and provide a law that brings uniformity across the country.

Despite the uncertainty, the doors to the college athlete market are about to swing open and some of them are prepared to cash in immediately.

“I’m going to do as much as I can on that first day and just kind of keep the train going,” said Pehlke, whose YouTube channel has more than 14,600 subscribers. “But I think right now it’s figuring out what I want to do and then drawing it out with my compliance contact to see if that’s all OK, and then get everything prepared for July 1, and then just hit the ground running.”

The Cavinders are 5-foot-6 identical twins who posted similar stat lines for Fresno State as sophomores last season. Haley was the Bulldogs’ leading scorer at 19.8 points per game while Hanna averaged 17. Haley was the Mountain West player of the year.

The Cavinders are good



Grace Hollars / IndyStar / TNS

Purdue Boilermakers forward Trevion Williams yells in excitement during a Big Ten tournament game March 12 against Ohio State. Williams returns for the Boilermakers next season.

enough to think about possible pro careers, but they are also the perfect example of how the NIL market will be a boon for way more than just star quarterbacks and point guards at high-profile schools. Athletic accomplishment is only a small piece of the puzzle. In a world where anybody with a smart phone can be a content creator, the Cavinders’ TikTok videos that often combine dancing and basketball have really caught on.

As the views and followers started piling up into the millions, Haley and Hanna found out their videos could have value way beyond family bonding during quarantine. Icon Source, a company that connects brands and athletes through an app, said wireless communications brand Boost Mobile plans to offer a deal to the Cavinders on Thursday. “We have discovered you can, like, monetize all your accounts and you can create a profit off them, and then partnering with brands is really a cool, eye-opening thing,” Hanna said over a Zoom call from their home in Gilbert, Arizona.

“We never knew that could be a thing,” Haley added.

Blake Lawrence is the CEO of Opendorse, one of a handful of companies working with dozens of schools on NIL programming and education. He said the estimated value of a social media account can be determined by followers. A tweet, for example, can garner

\$10 per 1,000 followers for the account that posts it.

Instagram is closer to \$20 per follower, according to Lawrence. TikTok followers are worth \$3-\$4 and YouTube followers range from \$4-\$7. Actual value is ultimately determined by engagement with the post, which companies can measure by likes, comments, retweets and shares.

The Cavinders said companies have been in touch but they are cautious.

“A lot of brands have reached out, but we obviously cannot work with them because of the rules and eligibility,” Hanna said.

The NCAA is close to a stopgap plan that will allow all athletes to be compensated for NIL usage. It is considering waiving its rules against such payments, schools would follow state NIL laws where applicable, and schools would set their own policies in states with no NIL law.

All the uncertainty has been a source of worry for the Cavinders’ parents, who fear an eager move by the twins could cost them eligibility.

“I know the girls keep saying, ‘Oh, July 1’ and they’re excited, but we still are just like, ‘OK, put on the brakes for a little bit until we make sure that it does get passed,’” Katie Cavinder said.

Pehlke also said he is proceeding cautiously with guidance from Ohio State and Opendorse, but expects to ramp up the business he had

to shut down when he became a college athlete in 2020.

Pehlke has been a YouTuber since high school. Not only was he already monetizing his posts, but he was selling merchandise like T-shirts and Pop Sockets to his fans. Between the two, Pehlke said, the revenue could get into the “thousands” of dollars.

“But obviously with the (NIL) rules not in place, I had to turn it all down,” Pehlke said. “And that was just kind of devastating to me just because you put in so much work and I’m not a guy in this industry that’s just making viral videos. Like, this is going to be my life.”

Knowing the rules would change, Pehlke kept pumping out content. He treats it like a job, coming third behind school and lacrosse on his list of responsibilities.

“My friends will be there. They know I set strict boundaries with them where I don’t see them until Friday nights and Saturday nights because I know this is all going to pay off in the long run,” Pehlke said.

The Cavinders don’t know what their online stardom will lead to. They are passionate about health and fitness, so maybe the following they have built can someday help lead to a career in that field?

“We still think of ourselves as just basketball players,” Haley said.

Soon, though, they will likely be paid to be influencers.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	48	31	.608	—
Tampa Bay	47	32	.595	1
Toronto	40	36	.526	6½
New York	40	38	.513	7½
Baltimore	25	54	.316	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	45	32	.584	—
Cleveland	42	33	.560	2
Minnesota	33	43	.434	11½
Detroit	34	45	.430	12
Kansas City	33	44	.429	12

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	48	31	.608	—
Oakland	47	33	.588	1½
Seattle	41	38	.519	7
Los Angeles	38	40	.487	9½
Texas	30	48	.385	17½

Monday’s Games

Cleveland 13, Detroit 5
L.A. Angels 5, N.Y. Yankees 3
Boston 6, Kansas City 5
Baltimore 9, Houston 7
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox, p.p.d.

Wednesday’s Games

Tampa Bay (Wacha 1-2) at Washington (Lester 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Ohtani 3-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Germán 4-5), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Sheffield 5-7) at Toronto (Matz 7-3), 7:07 p.m.
Detroit (Peralta 0-1) at Cleveland (Quantrill 0-2), 7:10 p.m.
Kansas City (Minor 6-5) at Boston (Pérez 5-4), 7:10 p.m.
Baltimore (Harvey 3-9) at Houston (Garcia 6-4), 8:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Ober 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 6-3), 8:10 p.m.
Texas (Allard 2-3) at Oakland (Bassitt 8-2), 9:40 p.m.

Thursday’s Games

L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.
Seattle at Toronto, 1:07 p.m.
Kansas City at Boston, 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
Texas at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.
Houston at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	40	34	.541	—
Washington	38	38	.500	3
Atlanta	37	40	.481	4½
Philadelphia	36	40	.474	5
Miami	33	44	.429	8½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	46	33	.582	—
Chicago	42	37	.532	4
Cincinnati	39	38	.506	6
St. Louis	38	41	.481	8
Pittsburgh	29	48	.377	16

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	50	28	.641	—
Los Angeles	48	31	.608	2½
San Diego	47	33	.588	4
Colorado	32	47	.405	18½
Arizona	22	58	.275	29

Monday’s Games

Colorado 2, Pittsburgh 0
Cincinnati 12, Philadelphia 4
Washington 8, N.Y. Mets 4
St. Louis 7, Arizona 1
Milwaukee 14, Chicago Cubs 4
L.A. Dodgers 3, San Francisco 2

Wednesday’s Games

Arizona (Martín 0-3) at St. Louis (Kim 1-5), 1:15 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 5-8) at Milwaukee (Burnes 3-4), 2:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Kuhl 2-4) at Colorado (Gray 4-6), 3:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Wacha 1-2) at Washington (Lester 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
Miami (Poteet 2-3) at Philadelphia (Nola 5-4), 7:05 p.m.
San Diego (Musgrove 4-6) at Cincinnati (Gutierrez 3-2), 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Walker 6-3) at Atlanta (TBD), 7:20 p.m.

Thursday’s Games

Miami at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
San Diego at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m.

St. Louis at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

NCAA College World Series

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

at TD Ameritrade Park Omaha, Neb.

(Best-of-3; x-if necessary)

Monday, June 28: No. 4 Vanderbilt 8, No. 7 Mississippi St. 2
Tuesday, June 29: No. 7 Mississippi St. vs. No. 4 Vanderbilt
x-Wednesday, June 30: No. 7 Mississippi St. vs. No. 4 Vanderbilt, 7 p.m.

NHL

STANLEY CUP FINAL

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

Tampa Bay 1, Montreal 0

Monday, June 28: Tampa Bay 5, Montreal 1
Wednesday, June 30: Montreal at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.
Friday, July 2: Tampa Bay at Montreal, 8 p.m.
Monday, July 5: Tampa Bay at Montreal, 8 p.m.
x-Wednesday, July 7: Montreal at Tampa Bay, TBA
x-Friday, July 9: Tampa Bay at Montreal, TBA
x-Sunday, July 11: Montreal at Tampa Bay, TBA

NBA

CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

Eastern Conference

Milwaukee 2, Atlanta 1

Wednesday, June 23: Atlanta 116, Milwaukee 113
Friday, June 25: Milwaukee 125, Atlanta 91
Sunday, June 27: Milwaukee 113, Atlanta 102
Tuesday, June 29: Milwaukee at Atlanta
Thursday, July 1: Atlanta at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
x-Saturday, July 3: Milwaukee at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.
x-Monday, July 5: Atlanta at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.

Western Conference

Phoenix 3, L.A. Clippers 2

Sunday, June 20: Phoenix 120, L.A. Clippers 114
Tuesday, June 22: Phoenix 104, L.A. Clippers 103
Thursday, June 24: L.A. Clippers 106, Phoenix 92
Saturday, June 26: Phoenix 84, L.A. Clippers 80
Monday, June 28: L.A. Clippers 116, Phoenix 102
Wednesday, June 30: Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 9 p.m.
x-Friday, July 2: L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	10	5	.667	—
Las Vegas	9	8	.529	2
New York	8	8	.500	2½
Washington	7	8	.467	3
Atlanta	5	9	.357	4½
Indiana	1	15	.063	9½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	12	4	.750	—
Las Vegas	11	4	.733	½
Dallas	8	8	.500	4
Phoenix	7	7	.500	4
Minnesota	7	7	.500	4
Los Angeles	6	8	.429	5

Monday’s Games

No games scheduled.
Tuesday’s Games
Connecticut at Washington
New York at Atlanta
Wednesday’s Games
Chicago at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Las Vegas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday’s Games
Connecticut at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Friday’s Games
Chicago at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Las Vegas at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.

USA Basketball confirms veteran Olympic roster

COLORADO SPRINGS (AP) — Experience mattered to USA Basketball when putting together a roster for the Tokyo Olympics.

The Americans formally revealed their roster Monday, one that will be the third-oldest U.S. men’s team in Olympic history for the Tokyo Games. The 12-man list includes five players — Kevin Love, Kevin Durant, Jrue Holiday, Damian Lillard and Draymond Green — already in their 30s.

In addition to those five players, the U.S. also has gotten commitments from Bam Adebayo, Bradley Beal, Devin Booker, Jerami Grant, Zach LaVine, Khris Middleton and Jayson Tatum to play on the team. All those commitments became known in recent weeks; USA Basketball, which is seeking a fourth consecutive Olympic gold medal, merely made it

official Monday with the announcement.

“USA Basketball selects players to represent our country in international competition with the skills, character, experience, and desire to win,” said retired Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of USA Basketball’s Board of Directors. “We build teams that are versatile and resilient in the short, intense competitions we face. We’re fortunate that this group of elite athletes has volunteered to represent us in Tokyo this summer.”

Love and Durant are the oldest, at 32. Tatum and Adebayo, at 23, are the youngest. The average age — calculated by USA Basketball to be 28.2 at the end of the Tokyo Games if this roster doesn’t change — ranks behind only the 1996 team (29.4) and the Dream Team in 1992 (29.0) as the oldest U.S. group.

Williams out of Wimbledon after leg injury

By CHRIS LEHOURITES

Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Serena Williams stopped playing her first-round match at Wimbledon in the first set Tuesday after she hurt her left leg by slipping during a point, a sudden end to her latest bid for a record-tying 24th Grand Slam singles title.

Roger Federer’s reaction when he found out what happened to Williams? “Oh my God, I can’t believe it,” he said, surely articulating a common sentiment.

Williams was serving in the fifth game at Centre Court

— where the roof was shut because of rain much of the afternoon — when she lost her footing near the baseline while hitting a forehand against Aliaksandra Sasnovich of Belarus.

Williams winced and stepped gingerly between points, clearly troubled. After dropping that game, she took a medical timeout and tried to continue playing.

A crying Williams bit her upper lip and covered her face between points. The crowd tried to offer support and encouragement.

But eventually, the 39-year-old American dropped to her

knees, and the chair umpire came over to check on her.

Williams then made her way up to the net to shake hands with Sasnovich, conceding with the score 3-all, 15-30.

“Of course, I am so sad for Serena,” said Sasnovich, who is ranked 100th and reached the fourth round at Wimbledon in 2018 for her best Grand Slam result. “She is a great champion. It happens sometimes in tennis. But all the best for her. Best recovery.”

Williams raised her racket with right arm and put her left palm on her chest. Then she waved to the spectators.

Officially, this will go in the

books as only the second first-round Grand Slam exit of Williams’ career.

Her departure makes a wide-open women’s draw even more so. As it was, defending champion Simona Halep and four-time major champ Naomi Osaka withdrew before the tournament started.

Williams is a seven-time singles champion at the All England Club, including most recently in 2016. She also was the runner-up at Wimbledon each of the last two times it was held, in 2018 and 2019, before the tournament was canceled last year because of the coronavirus pandemic.